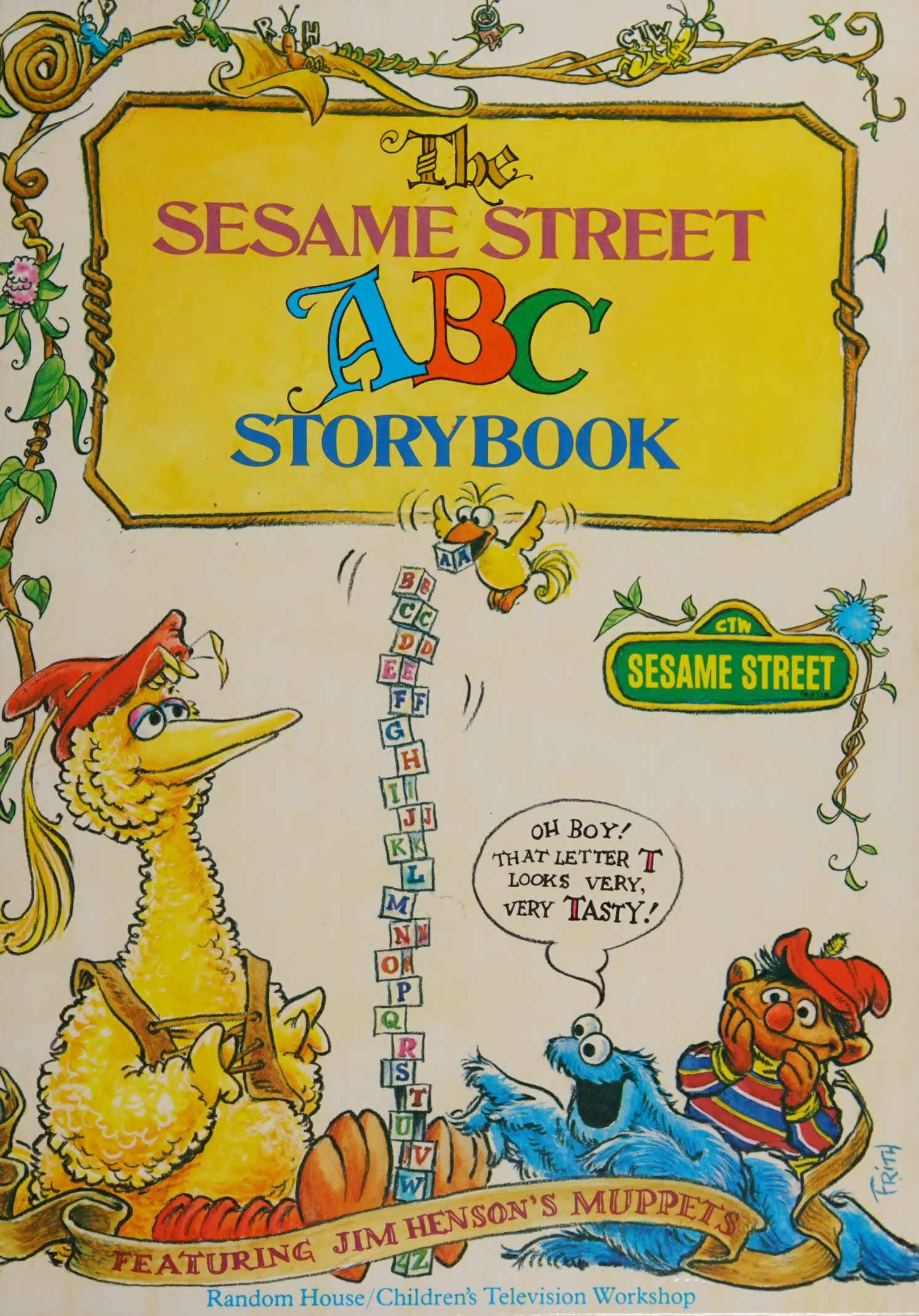
The SESAME STREET ABC STORYBOOK



FEATURING JIM HENSON'S MUPPETS

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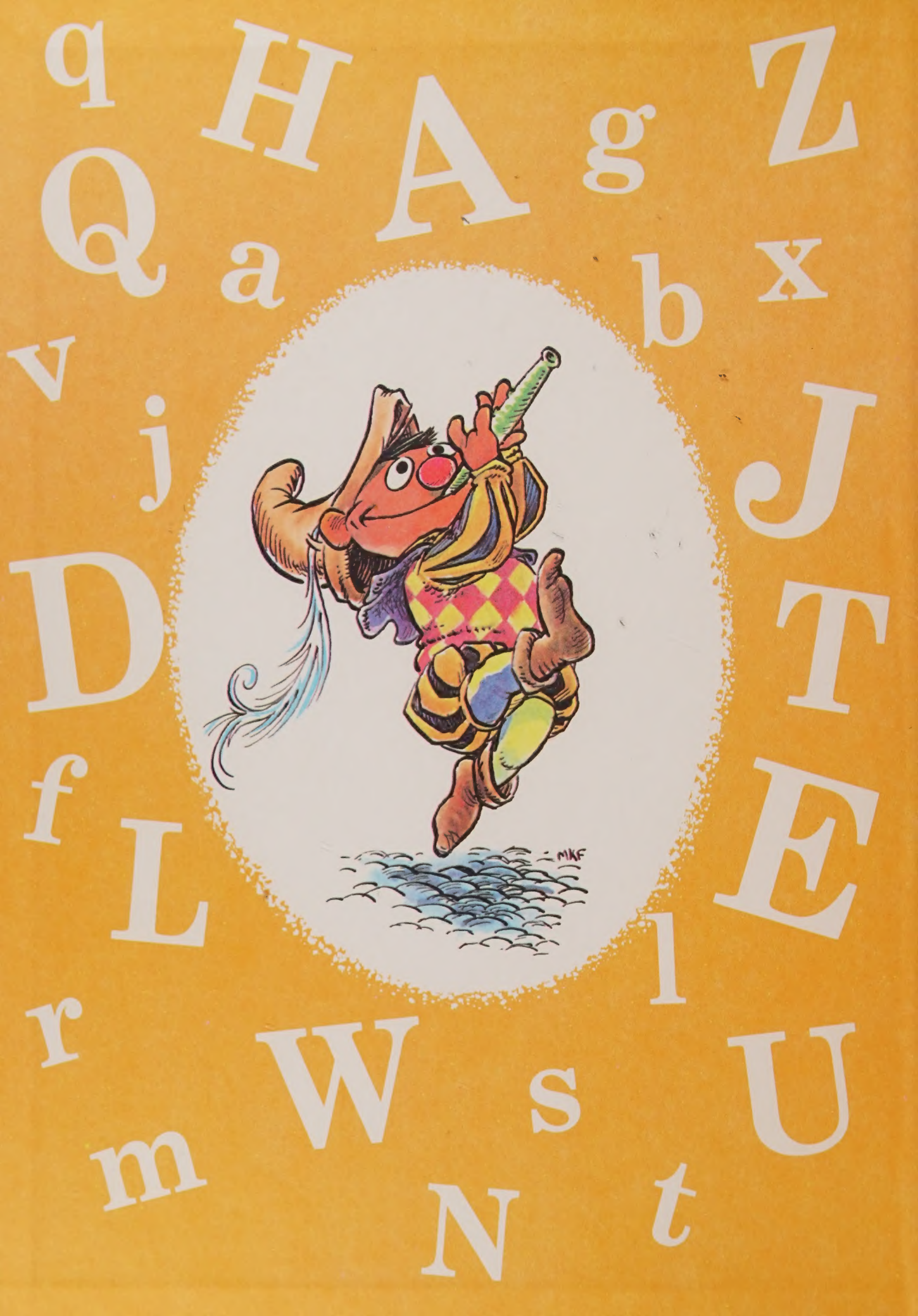
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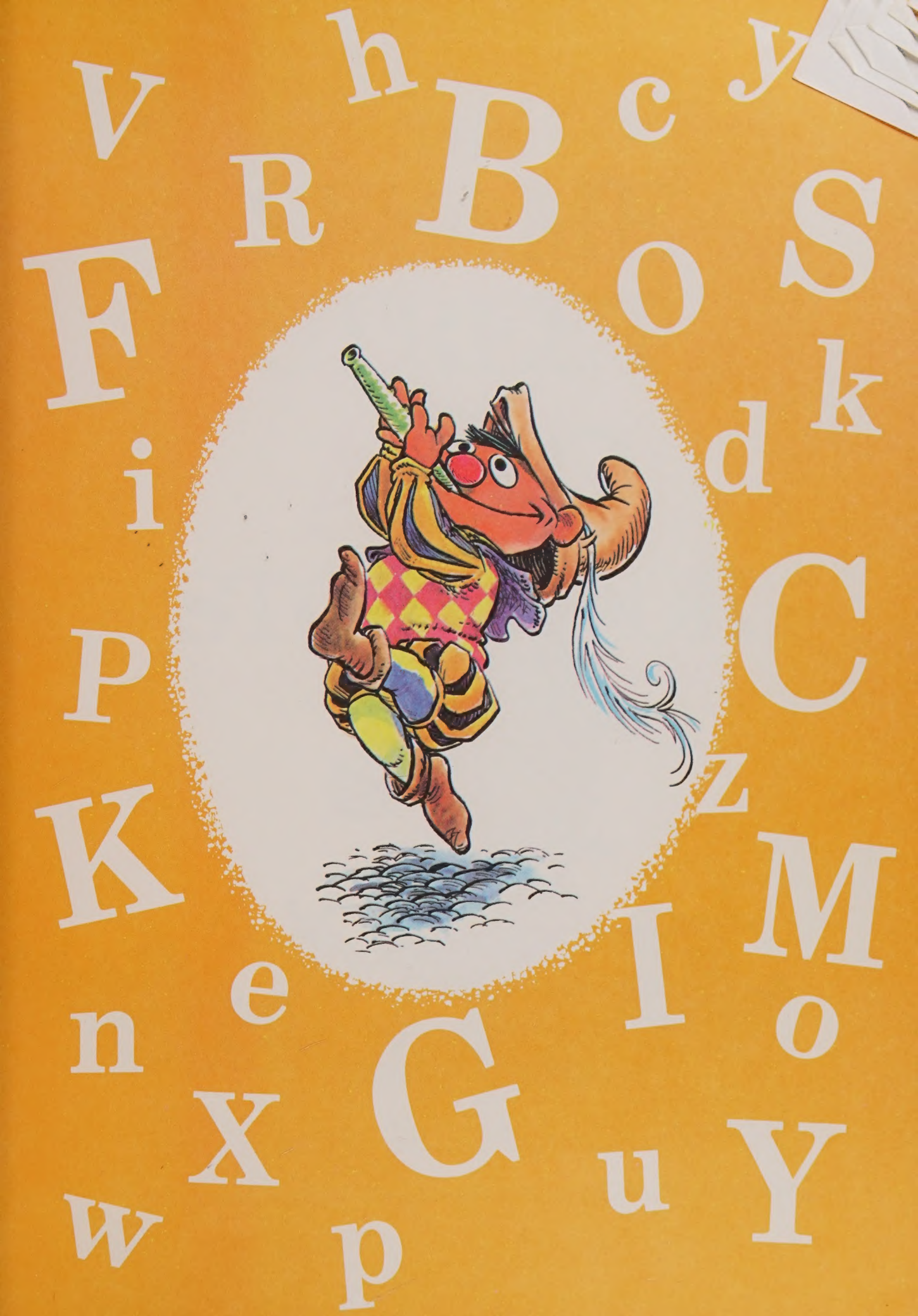
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THE SESAME STREET ABC STORYBOOK

FEATURING JIM HENSON'S MUPPETS

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Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data: Moss, Jeffrey. The Sesame Street ABC storybook. Summary: The Sesame Street muppet puppets present a story for every letter of the alphabet. 1. Alphabets. 2. Children's stories. [1. Alphabet books. 2. Humorous stories] I. Stiles, Norman, joint author. II. Wilcox, Daniel, joint author. III. Cross, Peter, illus. IV. Title. PZ5.M89Se [E] 74-5522 ISBN 0-394-82921-2 ISBN 0-394-92921-7 (lib. bdg.) Manufactured in the United States of America.

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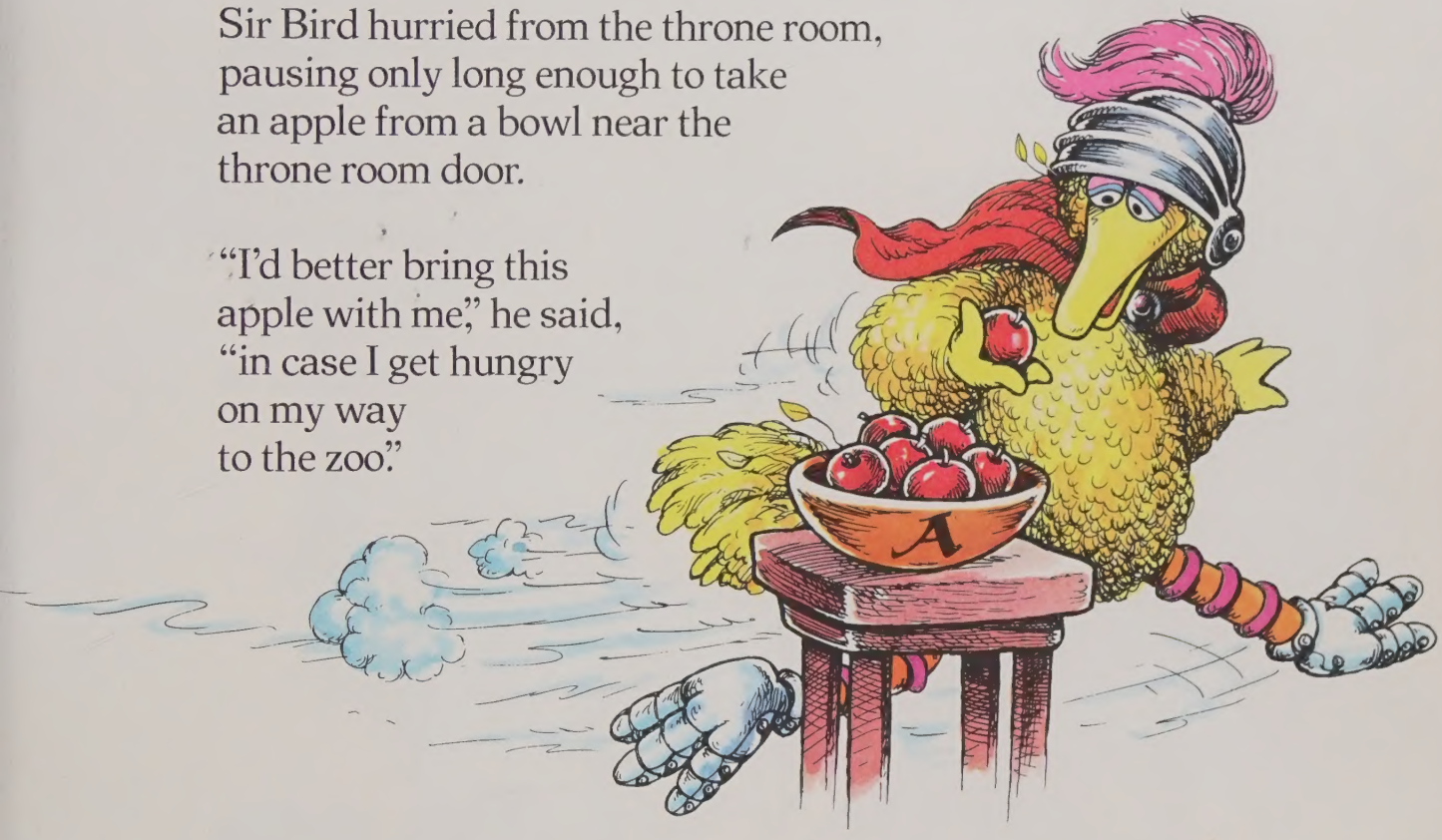
a A
An A Story
Once upon a time, in a far-away kingdom, there lived a queen named Queen Agatha. One day, Queen Agatha called all the knights of the kingdom to the throne room.
I love things that begin with A!
J. Mathieu

"Knights of the kingdom," announced Queen Agatha, "I love things that begin with A. Whoever can bring me something that begins with the letter A will be rewarded handsomely. *Perhaps* the winner will dance with me at the royal party tonight."

"Oh, boy!" said Sir Bird. "I'm heading for the Royal Zoo! That's the only place where I can find something that begins with the letter A. I'll be right back, Queen Agatha!"

Sir Bird hurried from the throne room, pausing only long enough to take an apple from a bowl near the throne room door.

"I'd better bring this apple with me," he said, "in case I get hungry on my way to the zoo."



Once outside the castle, Sir Bird realized that he was lost.

"Oh, no, I'm lost!" cried Sir Bird. "If only there were something to help me find my way to the Royal Zoo."

Just then, Sir Bird passed a large arrow. The arrow said, "This way to the zoo."

"Oh, look at that arrow!" exclaimed Sir Bird. "That arrow will help me find my way."

So he grabbed the arrow and followed it until he reached his destination—a cage in the Royal Zoo where there sat a happy-looking alligator.

"Oh, Mr. Alligator, I've found you at last," said Sir Bird. "Your name begins with the letter A. Won't you please come with me, back to the throne room?"

Since the alligator had never before seen a throne room, he was more than happy to follow Sir Bird.

When he reached the throne room,
Sir Bird announced to the Queen,
"Queen Agatha, this alligator's name
begins with the letter A. I guess
now I can dance with you
at the royal party,
huh?"

"Well," said the Queen,
"first of all that apple and that arrow
you have also begin with the letter A."

"Oh, how silly of me!" said Sir Bird. "I grabbed the apple and the arrow without realizing that they began with the letter A. But I guess that since I brought you an apple and an arrow and an alligator, I can dance with you at the royal party for sure."

"Well...if it's all the same to you, I'd like to dance with your friend! You're a pretty handsome guy, you know that?" said the Queen to the alligator.

Then she said to Sir Bird, "Sir Bird, since you found the letter A, I will give you a lifetime supply of birdseed. And, I will make you my Ambassador to Antarctica."

"Oh, boy!" said Sir Bird. And Sir Bird was very happy. And so was the Queen. As for the alligator, he was happy, too, because he had always wanted to dance with a Queen. And since everybody is happy, the story is over.

Bert and the Beanstalk

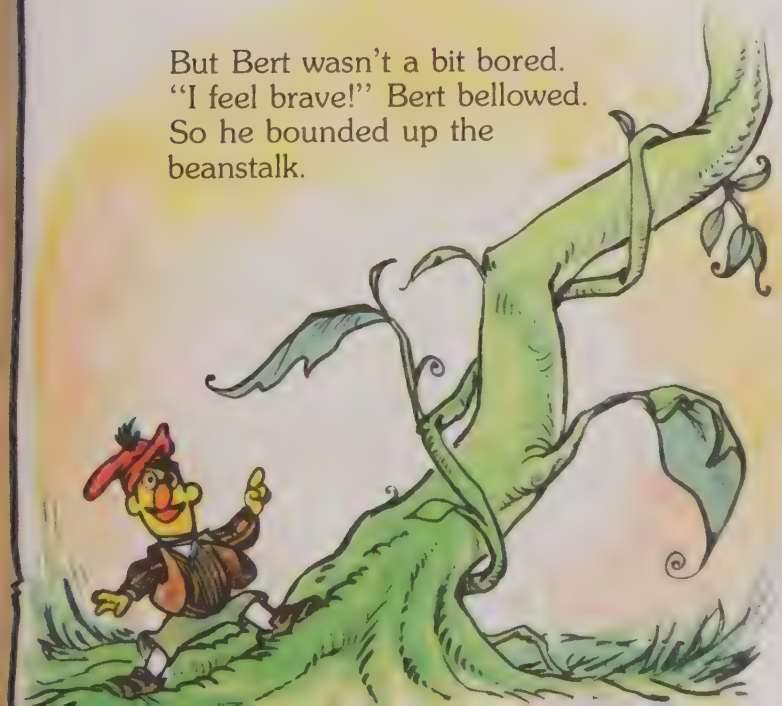
Once upon a time, there lived a boy named Bert. One day Bert traded the family bicycle for a bag of magic beans.

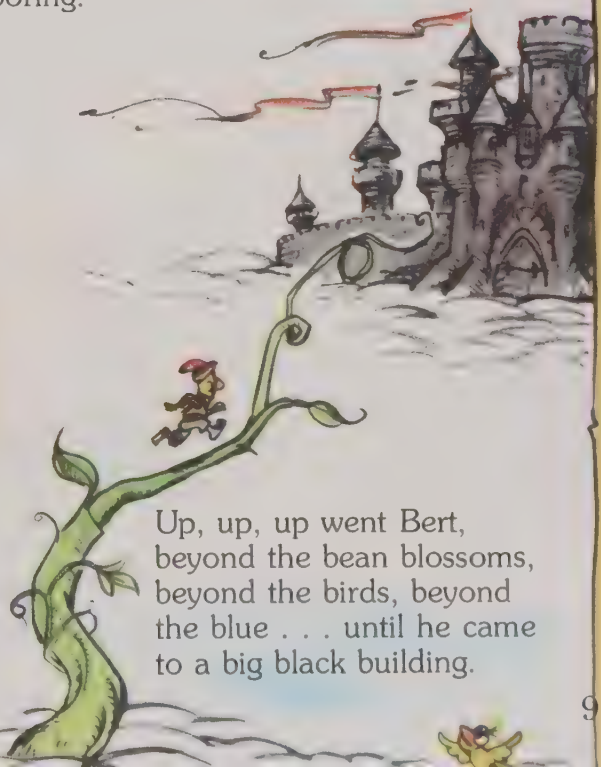
But Bert's buddy, Ernie, looked in the bag and said, "Beans? Blah! How boring." And he threw the boring beans out the back window.

Immediately, the beans began to bloom. By breakfast, they had blossomed into a big, beautiful beanstalk.

When Ernie saw the beanstalk he said, "Look. A big, beautiful beanstalk. That's *really* boring."

But Bert wasn't a bit bored. "I feel brave!" Bert bellowed. So he bounded up the beanstalk.





Up, up, up went Bert, beyond the bean blossoms, beyond the birds, beyond the blue . . . until he came to a big black building.

The building belonged to a giant named Burly Barney. Burly Barney was in the bedroom eating his breakfast of bushels of buttered buns, barrels of blueberries and bunches of bananas. When Bert saw how big Burly Barney was, Bert beat it to the back room.

There, Bert found a big basket. It was full of bottlecaps.

"Boy, oh boy, oh boy!" said Bert. "Bottlecaps! I collect bottlecaps!" So Bert brought the basket of bottlecaps back to the beanstalk.

But Burly Barney saw Bert, and he began to bellow, "You took my bottlecaps!" "I'd better beat it," said Bert.

Boldly, Bert climbed down. Barney bounded down behind him. But, on a bottom branch, Bert slipped and fell with a bump.

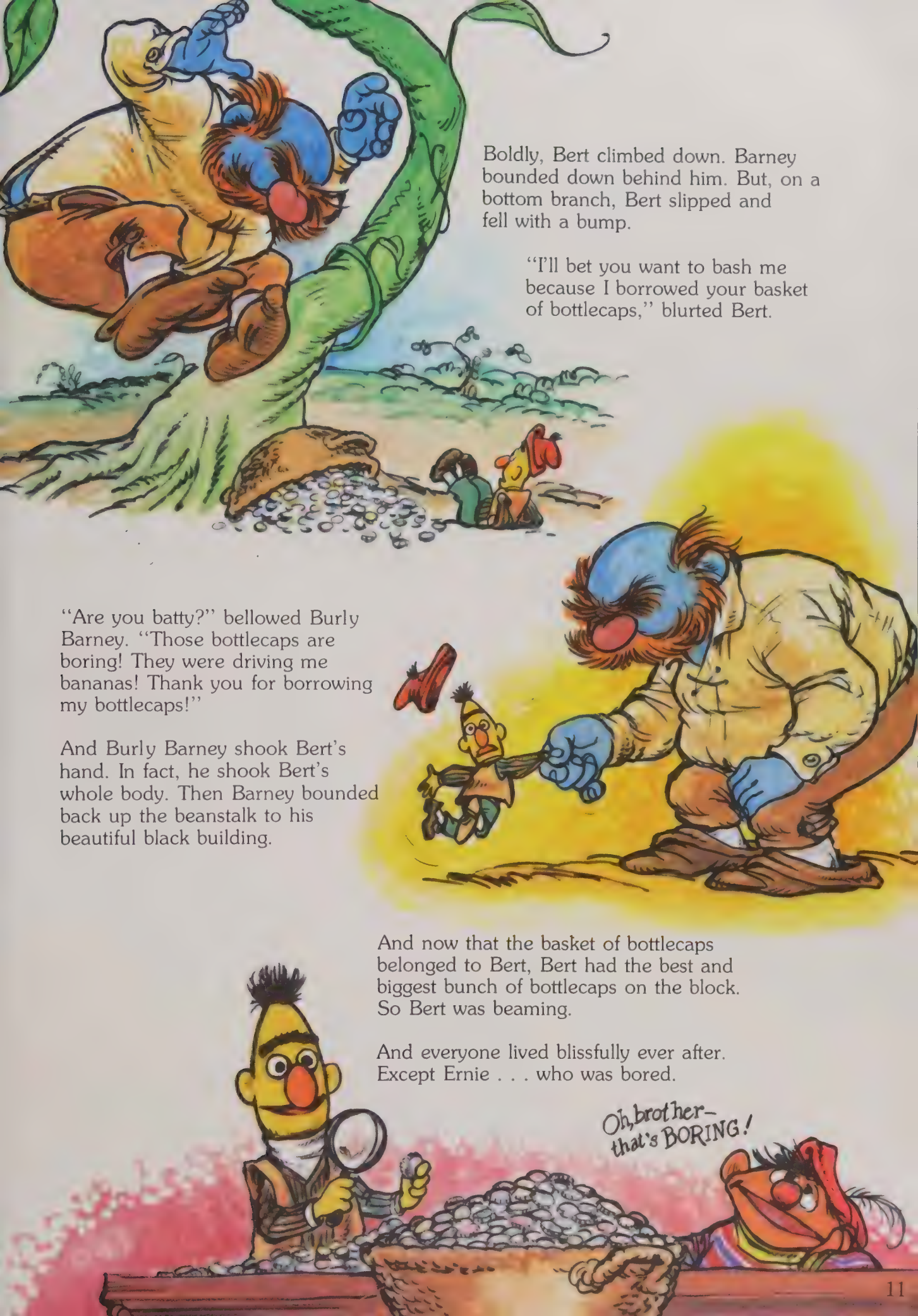
"I'll bet you want to bash me because I borrowed your basket of bottlecaps," blurted Bert.

"Are you batty?" bellowed Burly Barney. "Those bottlecaps are boring! They were driving me bananas! Thank you for borrowing my bottlecaps!"

And Burly Barney shook Bert's hand. In fact, he shook Bert's whole body. Then Barney bounded back up the beanstalk to his beautiful black building.

And now that the basket of bottlecaps belonged to Bert, Bert had the best and biggest bunch of bottlecaps on the block. So Bert was beaming.

And everyone lived blissfully ever after. Except Ernie . . . who was bored.



c C A Poem by Cookie Monster

C is for COOKIES.
Me like them a bunch.
Me crunch them for dinner
And breakfast and lunch.

And then there are CRUMBS.
Cookie crumbs are so yummy!
Me sweep them off table
And into my tummy.

Did you know
the word CARTON
begins with a C?
That's the box
cookies come in.
It tastes good to me! !

Well, that's all the C words
Me got for today.
Me get in my car now
And me drive away.

Hey, wait!

The word CAR starts with C.
Boy, that's neat!
Me thought me had run out of
C things to eat.

CRUNCH!

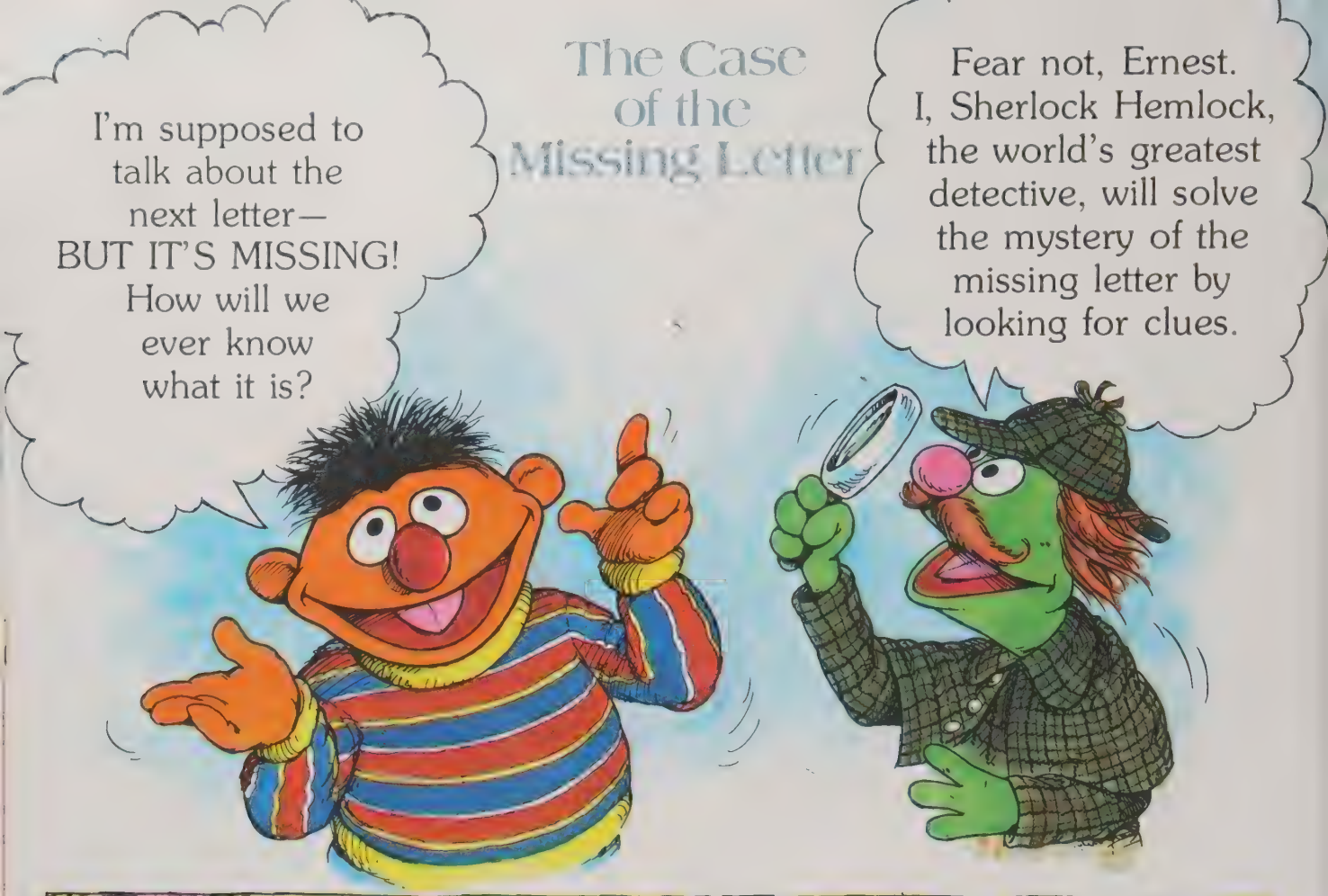
CRUNCH!

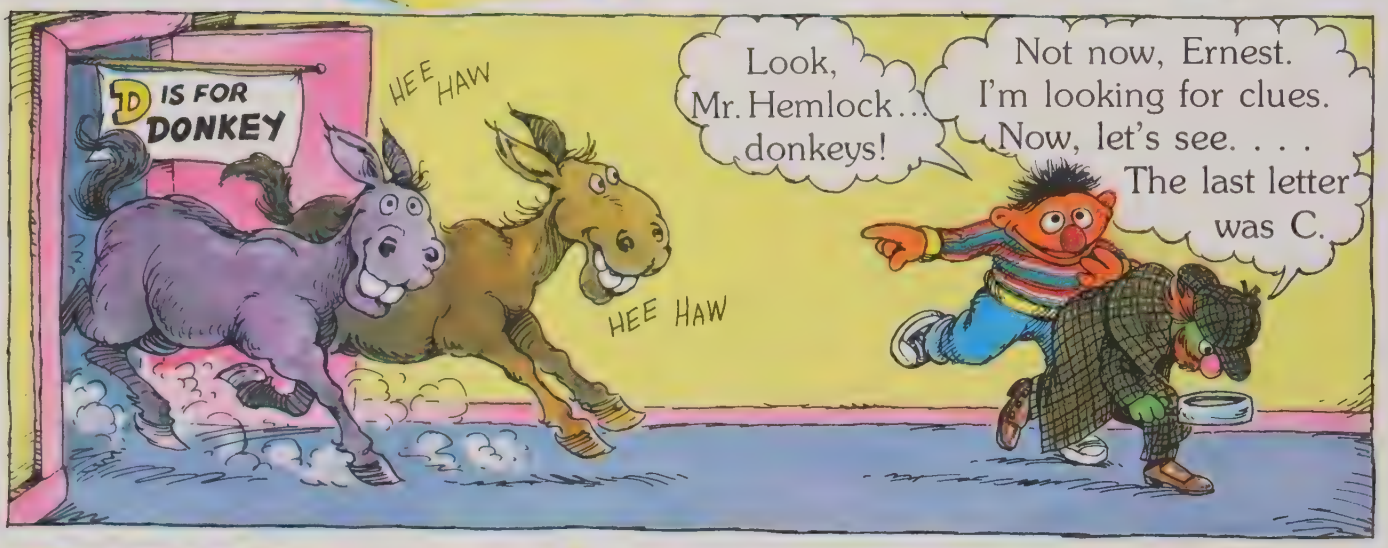
CRUNCH!

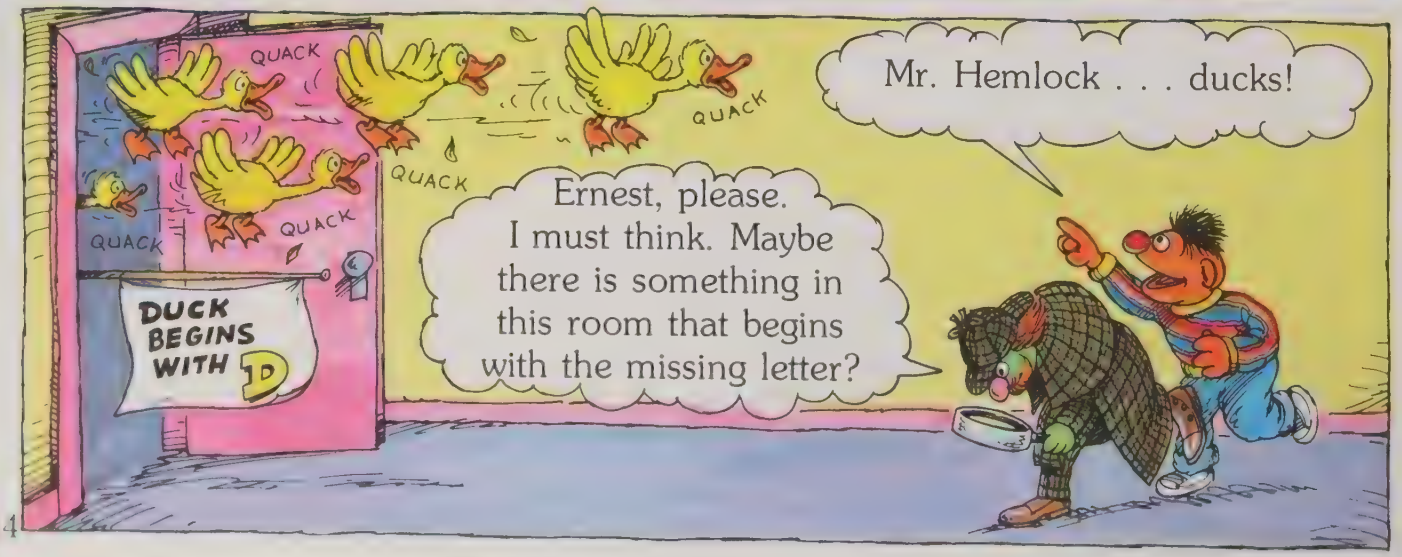
Tasty—
But not as good as
COOKIE!

Bye-bye!

The Case of the Missing Letter


I'm supposed to talk about the next letter— BUT IT'S MISSING! How will we ever know what it is?
Fear not, Ernest. I, Sherlock Hemlock, the world's greatest detective, will solve the mystery of the missing letter by looking for clues.


D IS FOR DONKEY
HEE HAW
HEE HAW
Look, Mr. Hemlock... donkeys!
Not now, Ernest. I'm looking for clues. Now, let's see. . . . The last letter was C.


QUACK
QUACK
QUACK
QUACK
QUACK
DUCK BEGINS WITH D
Ernest, please. I must think. Maybe there is something in this room that begins with the missing letter?
Mr. Hemlock . . . ducks!

D IS FOR DOGS, DINOSAURS, DEER, DOLPHINS
Mr. Hemlock . . . dogs, dinosaurs, deer, dolphins.
Ernest . . . close that door. I cannot look for clues to the missing letter with all these donkeys, ducks, dogs, dinosaurs, deer, and dolphins.
Aha! That's it!
What? Donkeys, ducks, dogs, dinosaurs, deer, and dolphins?
No, the **door**. Door starts with D, so D must be the missing letter. Sherlock Hemlock has done it again!
Dd IS FOR DOOR
Dynamite!
J. Mathieu

Ee Grover's Elevator

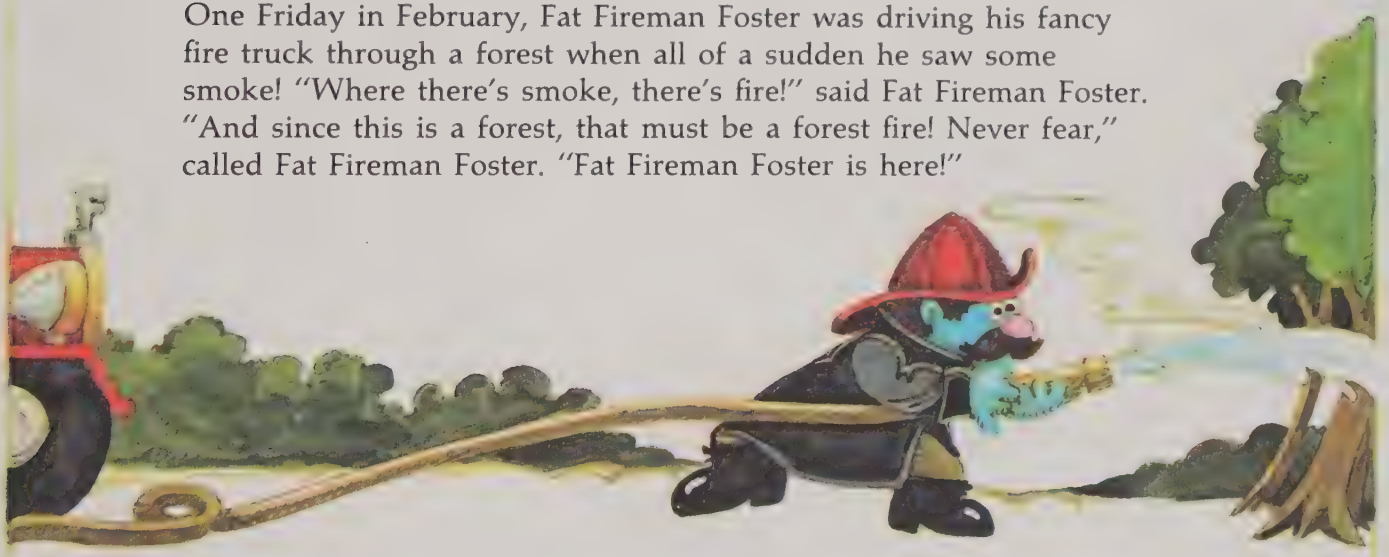
Hello, everybodee. I am your old pal Grover, and this is my *ELEVATOR*. Elevator begins with the letter E.
Look! My elevator is *EMPTY*. Empty is another word that begins with the letter E.
I wonder if there is anything else I can show you that begins with the letter E.
EEEK!
What floor is the toy department?
Eleventh floor, please.
The peanut department, please.
Ugh! *ELEPHANT* begins with the letter E, too.
Going up. Face the front of the car, please.

If you listen closely
to the next story,
you'll see that it's
filled with words
that begin with
the letter F.
It's called . . .

Ff ...The Fable of Fat Fireman Foster

Once upon a time, there was a famous fireman named Fat Fireman Foster. Fat Fireman Foster was famous because he was a fabulous fire fighter and because all his names began with the letter F.

One Friday in February, Fat Fireman Foster was driving his fancy fire truck through a forest when all of a sudden he saw some smoke! "Where there's smoke, there's fire!" said Fat Fireman Foster. "And since this is a forest, that must be a forest fire! Never fear," called Fat Fireman Foster. "Fat Fireman Foster is here!"



In a flash, Fat Fireman Foster fetched his fire hose. He pointed it at the smoke and turned it on. FLOOSH! "I have flooded the forest fire and it is finished," said Fat Fireman Foster.

But when the smoke cleared, Fat Fireman Foster found that it had not been a forest fire at all!

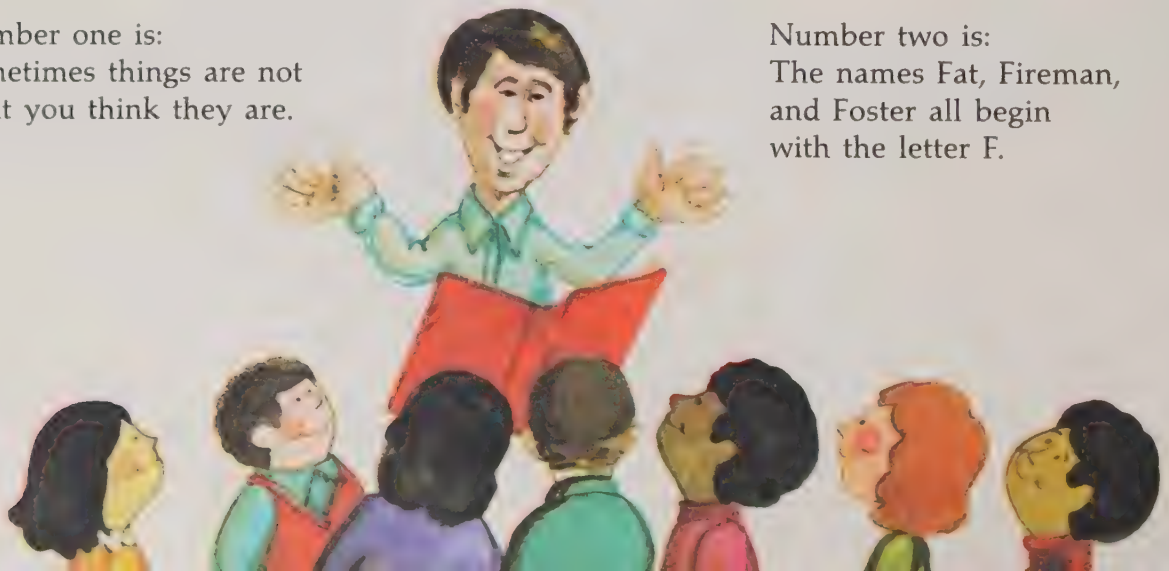
"Oh, no!" said Fat Fireman Foster. "I figured it was a forest fire—but it was a frankfurter fire instead! Just a few friendly folks fixing frankfurters! Oh, I'm sorry, folks," said Fat Fireman Foster. "Can you ever forgive me?"

"Sure, we'll forgive you!" said the folks. "We still have our frankfurters. And we have our fins and flippers, too. Fortunately we know how to swim and eat at the same time. Come join the fun, Fat Fireman Foster!"

So Fat Fireman Foster joined the fun and had a fabulous time feeding on frankfurters and flipping the flippers he borrowed from his new-found friends.

There are two things to be learned from the fable of Fat Fireman Foster:

Number one is:
Sometimes things are not what you think they are.



Number two is:
The names Fat, Fireman, and Foster all begin with the letter F.

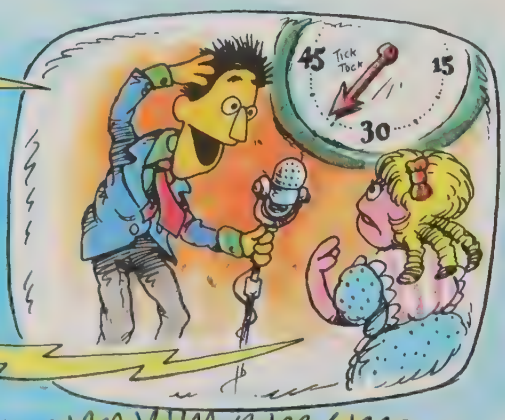
g g
NAME THAT G WORD
g g
AND NOW, it's time for everybody's favorite game show . . . "NAME THAT G WORD" . . . And here's our favorite G word himself . . . GUY SMILEY.
XYZ TV
Thank you, thank you. . . . And here's our contestant for today . . . Goldilocks!
Hi, Guy.
Guy who?
I wonder what the G word will be?
What's a G?
J. Mathieu

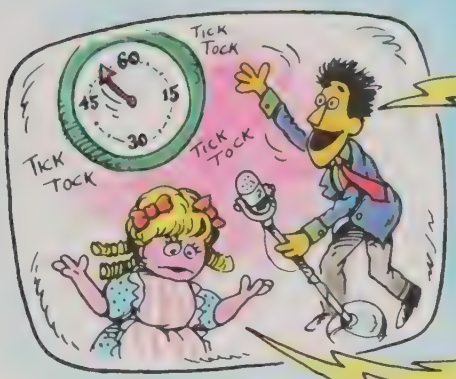
O.K. Now, Goldilocks, all you have to do is guess what our secret word that begins with the letter G is. I'll give you a hint. It's a word you say when you're leaving someone.

Uh . . . Um . . . ***Gorilla****? That's a G word.*

You say **gorilla** when you're leaving someone?

If I'm leaving a gorilla.





No, it's not ***gorilla****. But hurry. Your time is almost up.*

Well, then, I just don't know. I guess I just won't win. No hard feelings, Guy. I'll be going now. Good-by . . .

THAT'S IT! **GOOD-BY**! **GOOD-BY** IS OUR G WORD. YOU WIN!

Yeah?

Good-by begins with a G?

I didn't know that.

Boy, is she smart!

OH, WOW!
Yes. And here is your prize . . . a golden G.
Oh, thank you, Guy. I'll never forget this. I'll be going now. *Gorilla*!
Gorilla?
Grrrrrr!
Gasp!
GORILLA!!
Good-by.
Good-by.
Good-by!
Good-by!!

Hh

Hopalong Herbert Out West

Hello.
This is Herbert Birdsfoot out here in the Old West, so I can show you something that begins with the letter H. Can you guess what it is?
Right.
A HORSE.
Hi, ho, Herbert!
Away!
HA HA!
HOG
Help!!!

I

The Count Inks an I

Greetings!

I am the Count. I am here in this Alphabet Book to show you the letter **I**. I will make the letter **I** with this ink. **Ink** begins with the letter **I**. But I'll bet you knew that already.

There! This is the letter **I**. One poor lonely letter **I**. I will make another.

There!
Two letter **I**'s.
Ha. Ha. Ha.
Now, let me
see...

Four thousand, two hundred and twenty-one letter **I**'s...

Four thousand, two hundred and twenty-two letter **I**'s...

Oh, it's WONDERFUL!

Ha, ha, ha.

Four thousand, two hundred and twenty-three...

j J

The Jolly Juggler

There is a jolly juggler
Who juggles every day.
She can juggle lots of things
That all begin with J.

She can juggle jugs and jacks
And jars of jelly, too.
And if your name begins with J
She'll even juggle you.

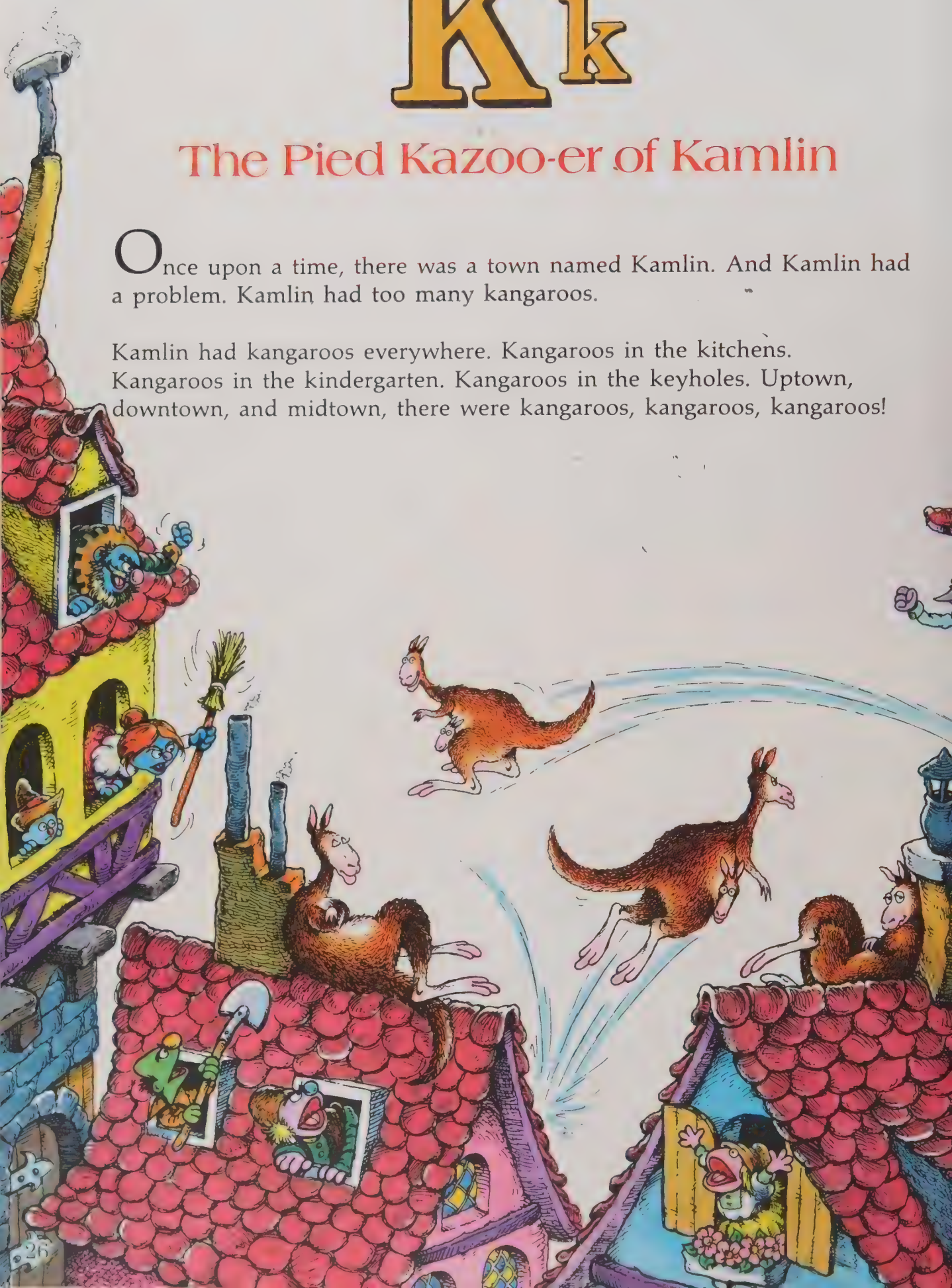
'Cause she can juggle Johnnies,
And Janes and Joels and Jills.
Ooops, there's been a big mistake—
Hey, wait...my name is Bill!

Kk

The Pied Kazoo-er of Kamlin

Once upon a time, there was a town named Kamlin. And Kamlin had a problem. Kamlin had too many kangaroos.

Kamlin had kangaroos everywhere. Kangaroos in the kitchens. Kangaroos in the kindergarten. Kangaroos in the keyholes. Uptown, downtown, and midtown, there were kangaroos, kangaroos, kangaroos!

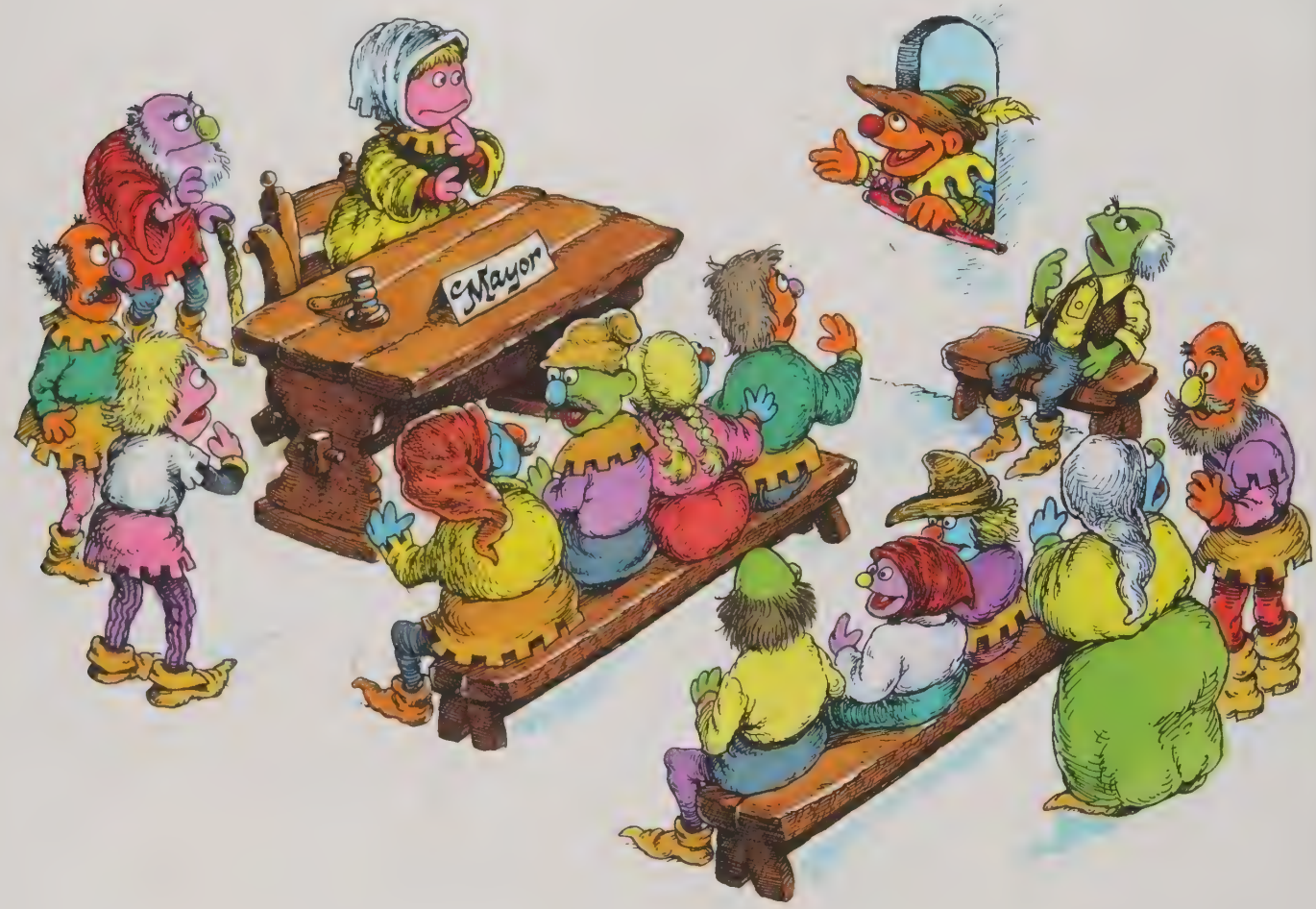


The townspeople couldn't stand it. So they had a town meeting. Mayor Kinkaid made a speech. She said, "We've got too many kangaroos!" And everybody cheered.

Then she said, "We need a plan!" And everybody stopped cheering. Because nobody had a plan. So they all sat there, thinking very hard.

Then up walked a keen-eyed stranger. He was dressed from head to foot in patchwork, and under his arm he carried a long kazoo.

"My friends," he said, "I am the Pied Kazoo-er, and I have the key to your kangaroo problem."



"Are you kidding?" said a townsperson. "How can you solve our kangaroo problem? By playing your kazoo?"

"Yes," said the Pied Kazoo-er, smiling mysteriously, and he raised his kazoo to his lips. Instantly, the air was filled with strange and enchanting music.

Then something magical happened. As the Pied Kazoo-er walked along, playing his kazoo, people began to follow him. All the people on King Street followed him. All the people on Kite Hill followed him. All the people who heard his bewitching music followed him.

In fact, all the people in the whole town of Kamlin followed him. They followed him out of Kamlin to a kingdom far away, where they never saw another kangaroo again.

When the people left, the kangaroos took over the town of Kamlin. They made it a kangaroo town. It became busy and prosperous, and soon it was the biggest, most famous kangaroo town in the world.

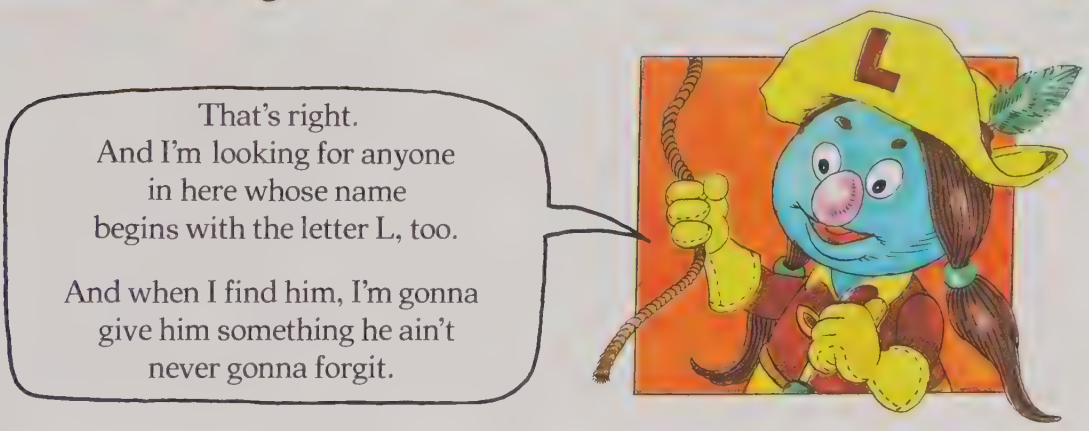
And the kangaroos lived happily ever after. So did the people.

And, by the way, just in case you didn't notice: Kamlin, and kangaroo, and kazoo . . . and lots of other words in this story, too . . . all start with the letter K. It's true. See for yourself.

L l

The Legend of Lasso Louise

Oh, no! It's Lasso Louise.
The fastest lasso in the West.
Yeah, and not only that...
...Her name begins with the letter L.
MILK BAR
ONE MILK (IN A GLASS) ..... 5¢
ONE MILK (IN A DIRTY GLASS)... 10¢
ONE CHOCOLATE MILK... 15¢
LADY LUCK!

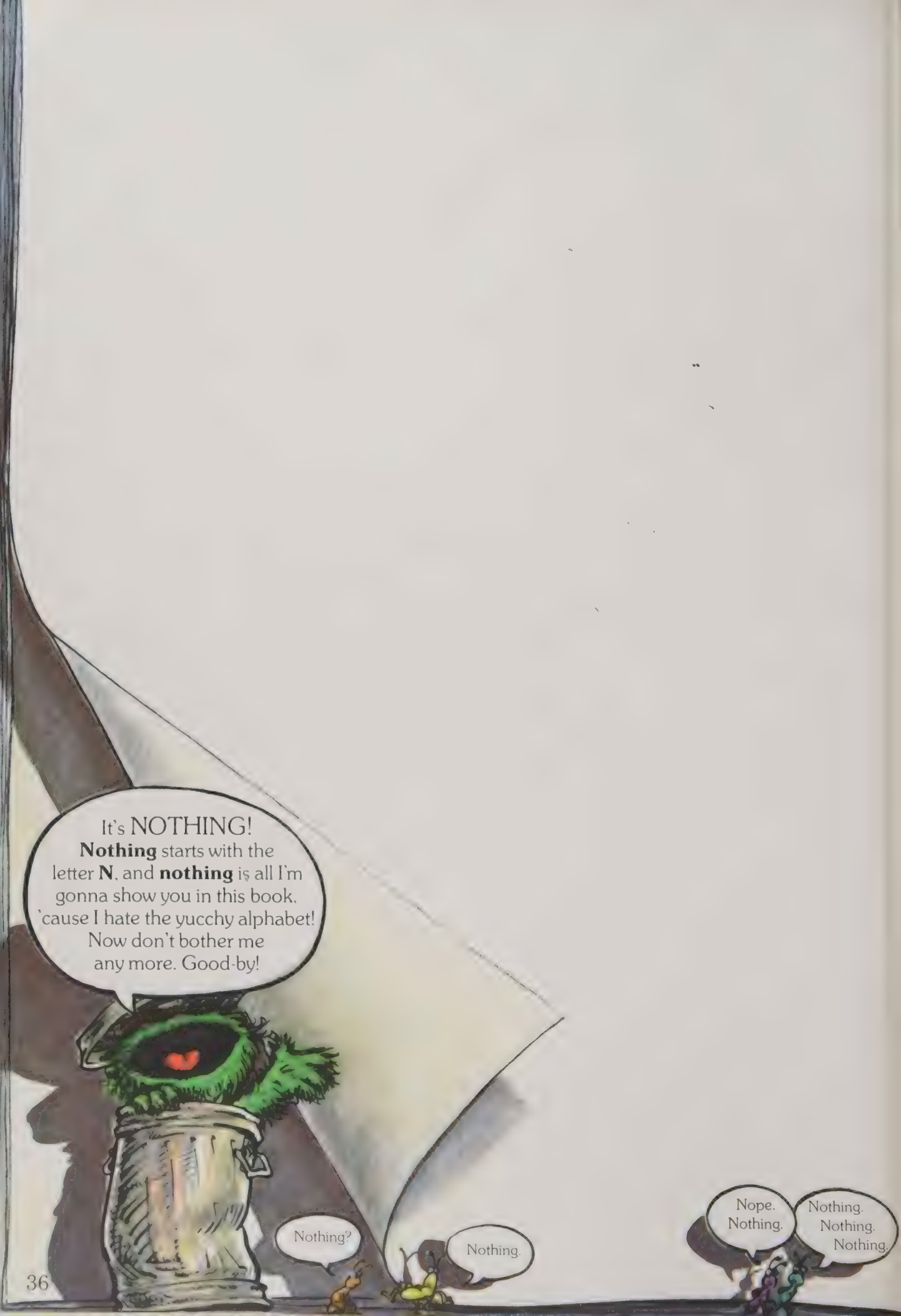

That's right.
And I'm looking for anyone in here whose name begins with the letter L, too.
And when I find him, I'm gonna give him something he ain't never gonna forgit.

Where's Lefty?
There he is.
Hey, Lefty, this Lasso person wants to talk to you.
Hold it, hombre. I understand your name begins with an L. Well, I've got something for you that you ain't never gonna forgit.
Here's a luscious, lovely lollipop.
Oh, thanks!
Boy, is he lucky.
No, he's Lefty.
Oh, wow, I want one.
Can I have a lick if I change my name to Leon?
This is something I'll never forget.

Ernie was going to meet me here on the M page. I wonder where he is.
Mm
Bert's Mountain
Oh, there he is, on top of that mountain. But I can't hear what he's saying.
Mmmmm
I still can't hear him. I'll have to climb closer.
Mmmmm
Mmmmm
Puff puff.

Mmmmm
Gasp. Whatever he's saying, it starts with the letter **M.**
Ernie, what were you saying? I climbed all the way up this mountain because I couldn't hear you.
Well, Bert, since this is the **M** page, I was saying this is a **mountain,** and **mountain** starts with the letter **M.**
I don't believe I climbed up all this way, and all you wanted to say is that **mountain** starts with the letter **M.**
No, that's not all I wanted to say, Bert. I was saying another **M** word, too. I was saying . . .
Mmmmm
Monster! That's the other thing I was saying, Bert. **Monster!** Don't come up! There's a **monster!** Look out, Bert! **Monster!** Stay off this **mountain! Monster!** . . .
You're right, Ernie. **Monster** starts with the letter **M.** . . . Did he say . . . *monster?*
Hello there!

Now that's what I call a really nice nail, Norbert.
Nn
That's a neat necktie, Ned. Is it new?
No, Nina. It is not new.
Oscar's Favorite N Word
I'm Oscar the Grouch and I'm going to show you something that starts with the letter N! Heh, heh. Just turn the page.
Look, Natasha! A nickel!
That's nifty, Noland.
FRITH

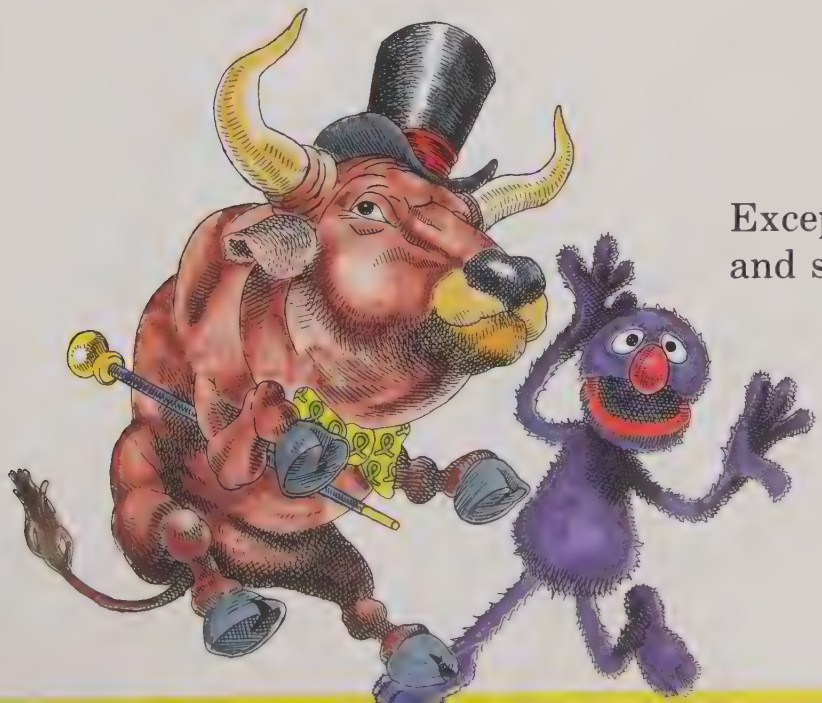

It's NOTHING!
Nothing starts with the letter **N**, and **nothing** is all I'm gonna show you in this book, 'cause I hate the yucchy alphabet! Now don't bother me any more. Good-by!
Nothing?
Nothing.
Nope. Nothing.
Nothing. Nothing. Nothing.

o O Grover Knows His O's

Hello.

I, Grover, am going to tell you some poems all about three friends of mine. And their names all begin with the letter **O**.

I like Ogden Ox . . .
he really is neat.

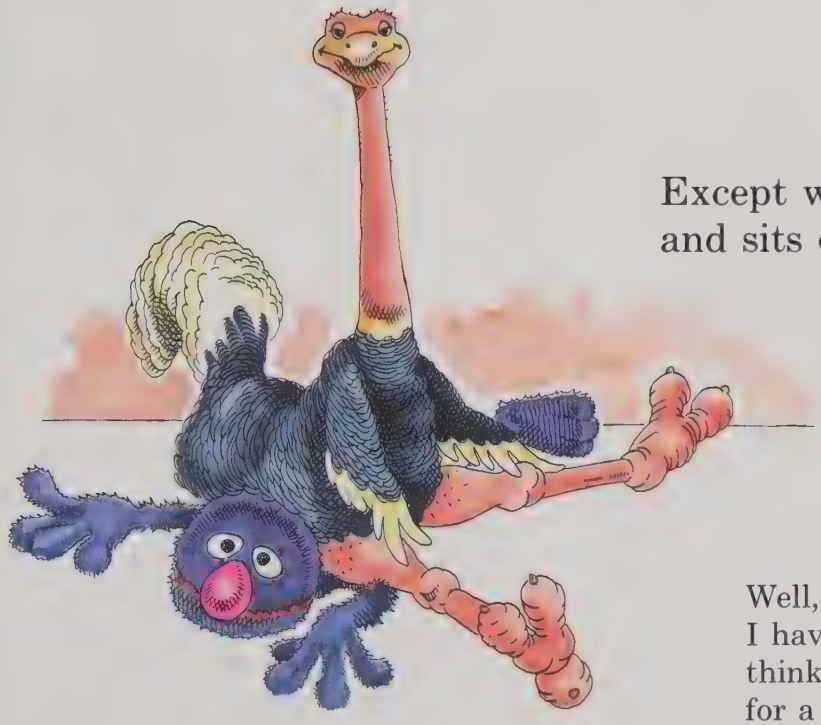


Except when he's dancing
and steps on my feet.

Olive the Octopus
has many charms.

Except when she hugs me
with all of her arms.

Ollie the Ostrich
is very well bred.



Except when he's tired
and sits on my head.

Well, those are all the **O** poems I have time for today. I do not think I am going to do any more for a long, long time. Good-by.
O o o o o o o o o o o o o h.

pP

The Story of Pete the Pirate

Once upon a time, a nasty pirate sailed into a town. "Ahoy, mateys," the pirate announced. "My name is Pete the Pirate, and I am so nasty that I am going to take away everything in your town that begins with the letter **P.**"

And immediately, he grabbed a bag of **peanuts** from the hand of a little girl and dropped it into his pirate sack.

"Heh, heh," chuckled Pete the Pirate, and before he had finished chuckling, he had grabbed a **pizza pie** from the hands of a pizza-maker and had thrown it into his pirate sack.

"There's only one thing you can do to stop me from taking all the **P** things in your town," said Pete the Pirate. "And that's to say a special word that begins with the letter **P.** If anyone says the special **P** word, then I'll stop and go away."

And with that, he picked up a little boy's **puppy** and threw it into his pirate sack.

The people of the town got together and tried to think of what the special **P** word might be. The mayor had an idea. So he marched right up to Pete the Pirate and announced, "**Pickle**!"

"**Pickle**?" said Pete the Pirate. "You think that's the word that will make me stop? Ha!"

And he grabbed the mayor's **pants** right off him and threw them into his pirate sack.

Then, just for good measure, he grabbed the **packages** from the arms of a passing lady, and a stray **pig** that was walking down the street. He threw them in his pirate sack, too.

The people of the town got together again to try to think of the special **P** word that would make the pirate stop taking things. The cook from the biggest restaurant in town had an idea. So when the pirate came into his kitchen, the cook yelled, "**Porcupine**!"

"**Porcupine**?" said the pirate. "You think that's the special word that will make me stop? You're a pretty silly cook, you know that?"

And with that, the pirate grabbed all the cook's **pots** and **pans** and threw them into his pirate sack. Then, just for good measure, he went through the town collecting all the **pillows** and **pianos** and threw them into his pirate sack, too.

Well, the people of the town were getting pretty upset when a little boy came up to the pirate just as he was pulling a **pair** of **pajamas** off the washline.

"Mr. Pirate," said the little boy, "won't you stop taking all the **P** things from our town?"

"Why should I?" said the pirate. "I'm nasty."

"*Please*," said the little boy.

"What did you say?" said the pirate.

"I said *please*," said the little boy.

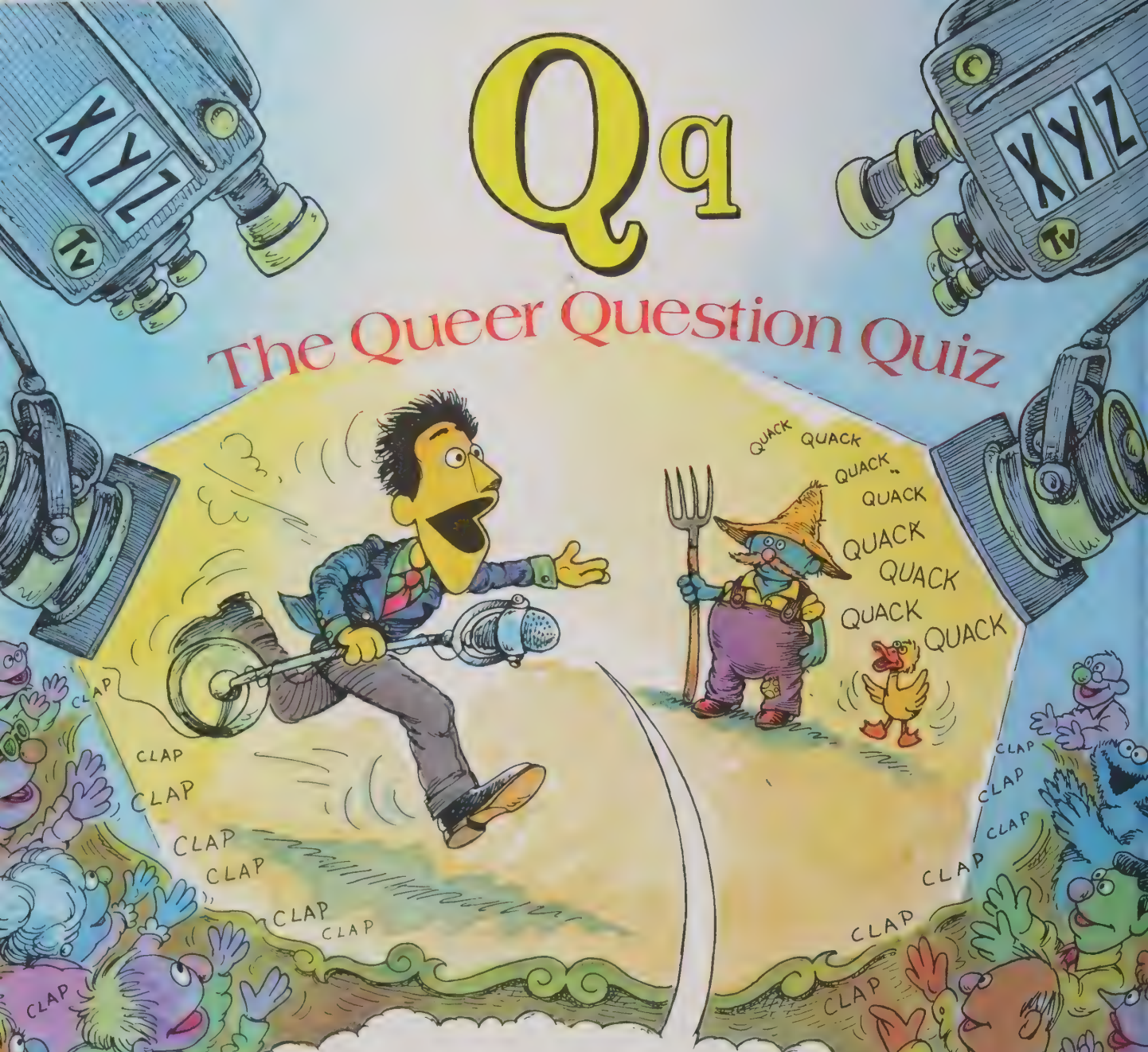
"That's it!" exclaimed the pirate. "That's the special word. **Please** is the special **P** word! I don't like you at all, little boy, but I'll have to stop because you said **please**."

And as quickly as Pete the Pirate had come to town, he left—and he never came back again.

The townspeople were grateful to the little boy. They only wished they had thought of the special **P** word sooner. Still, with the pirate gone, things could return to normal, and the people of the town all lived pretty happily ever after.

Qq

The Queer Question Quiz



Hi, everybody.

Guy Smiley here to bring you the moment you've all been waiting for—the Queer Question Quiz! Ladies and gentlemen, I hope you noticed that the words "Queer Question Quiz" all begin with the letter Q. Now, before I ask you today's Queer Question, I want to give you a clue to the answer. Today's answer has a whole lot of Q words in it. And now, here it is, folks—the moment you've all been waiting for—today's Queer Question on the Queer Question Quiz. Today's Queer Question is:

WHAT DID FARMER QUINCY SAY TO HIS PET DUCK QUEENIE WHEN HE WANTED HER TO STOP MAKING NOISE?

Take your time,
think it over. . . .
Okay, folks, your time is up!
The answer to today's
Queer Question Quiz is:

Farmer Quincy said
to his pet duck . . .

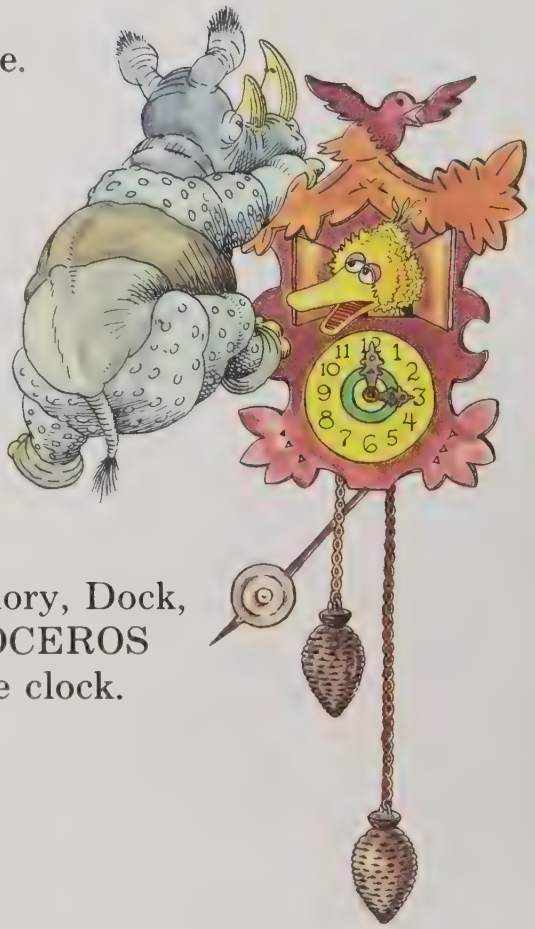
Look at all those Q words in
one sentence, folks! If that's not
enough for you, try saying it five
times fast. In the meantime,
this is Guy Smiley saying
"so long for now" from the Queer
Question Quiz! See you
again soon. And now,
on with the book. . . .

J. Mathieu

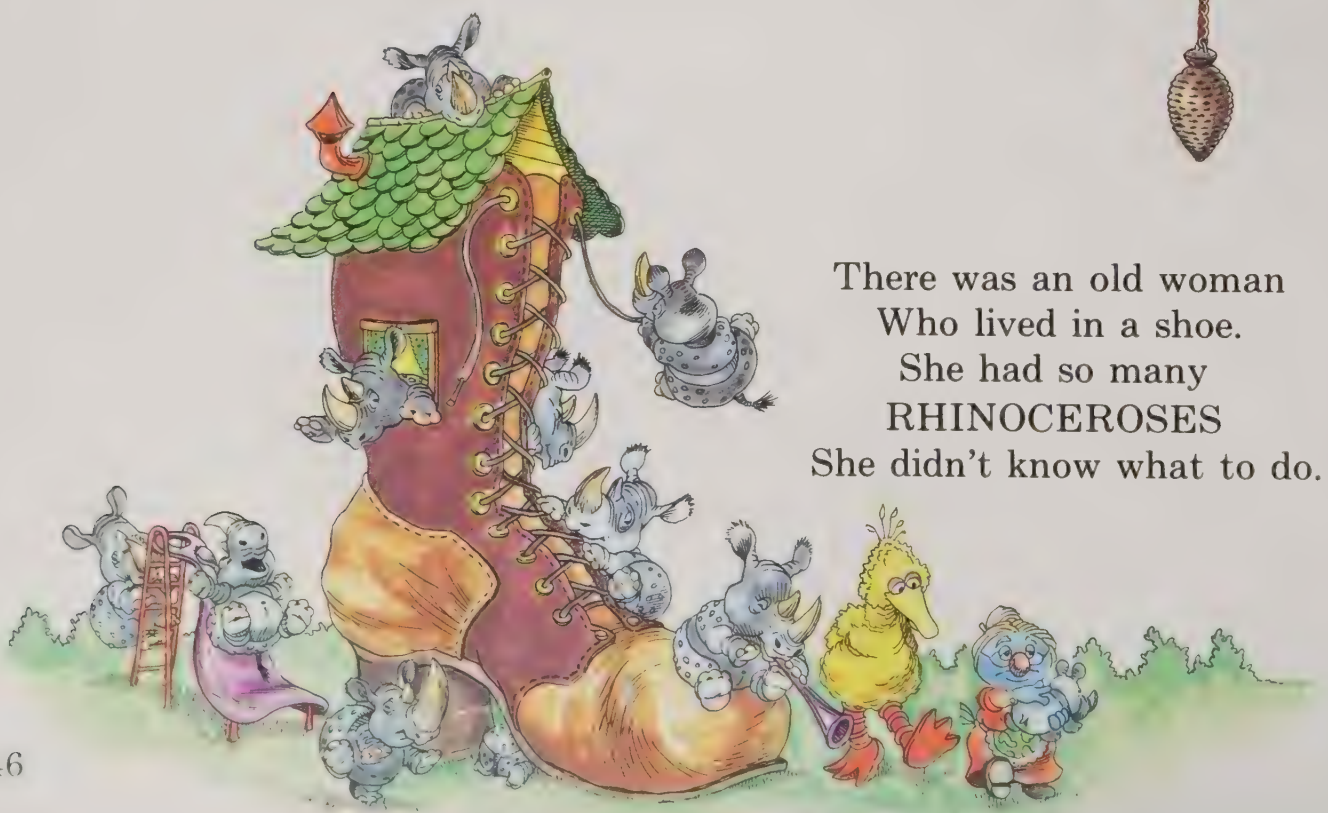
Rr

Big Bird's Ridiculous Rhinoceros Rhymes

Little Jack Horner
Sat in a corner,
Eating his Christmas pie.
He stuck in his thumb
And pulled out . . .
a RHINOCEROS!



Hickory, Dickory, Dock,
The RHINOCEROS
Ran up the clock.



There was an old woman
Who lived in a shoe.
She had so many
RHINOCEROSES
She didn't know what to do.

Sing a song of sixpence,
A pocket full of
RHINOCEROSES!

Old Mother Hubbard went
to the cupboard
To get her poor dog a bone.
But when she got there, she found . . .
a RHINOCEROS!

Ridiculous Rhinoceros Rhymes
may be silly, but RHINOCEROS
begins with the letter R, and
that's what's really important.

The Sock-maker and the Snuffle-upagus

Once there was a poor, tired old Sock-maker. One day, he promised to sew socks for the whole town, but by evening he was just too tired to finish.

Oh, dear. I can't sew another sock. I hate to disappoint everybody, but I have to go to sleep. Goodnight, Big Bird.

Gee, poor Mr. Sock-maker.

Suddenly, there was a strange sound, a puff of smoke, and a flash of light, and there before Big Bird stood the Snuffle-upagus fairy.

Who are you?

I am the Snuffle-upagus fairy. I watch over poor, tired sock-makers everywhere.

The Snuffle-upagus fairy got right to work.

I'll sew those socks for him.

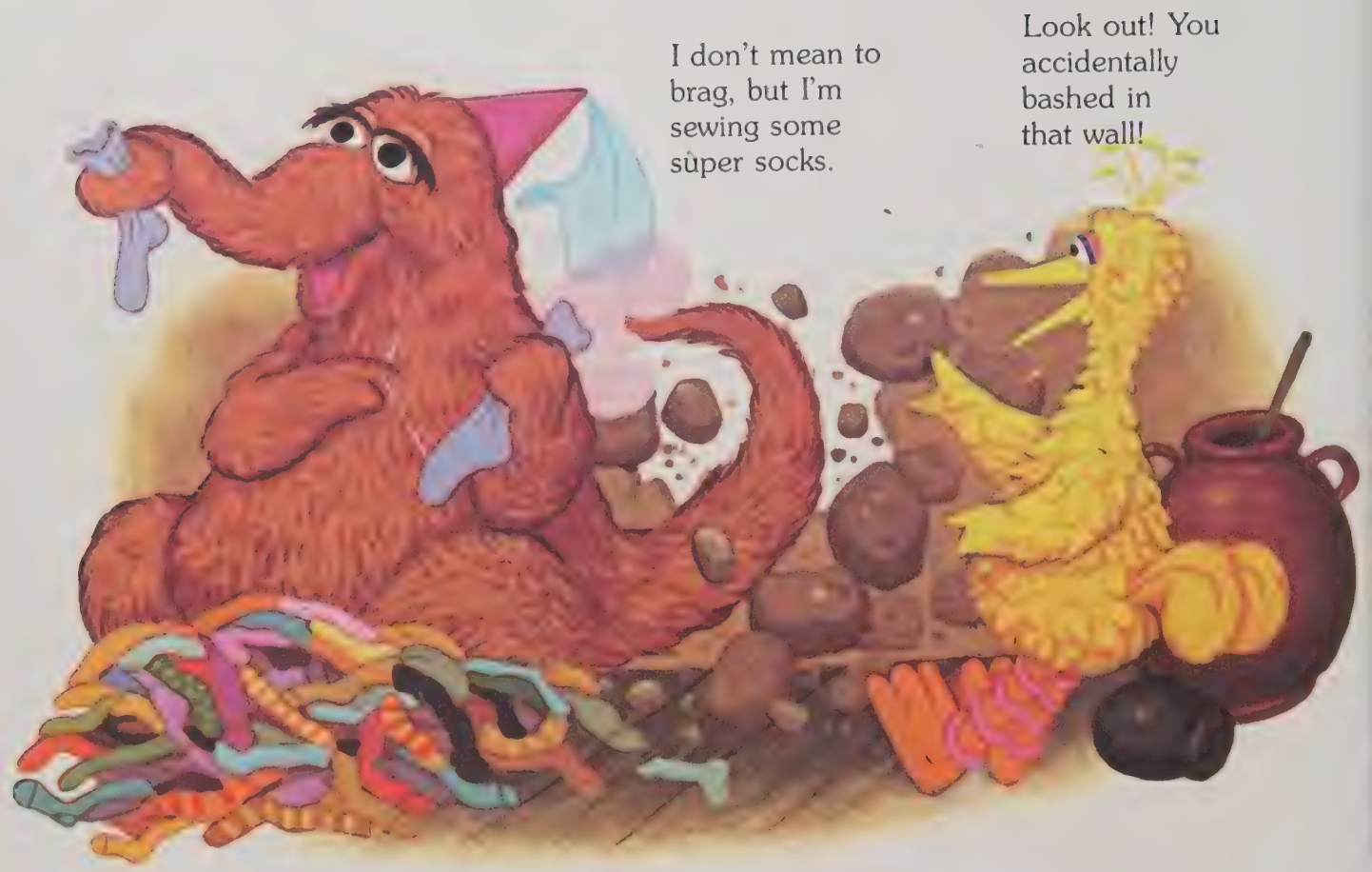
Look out! Your tail knocked those boxes over!

Socks Box

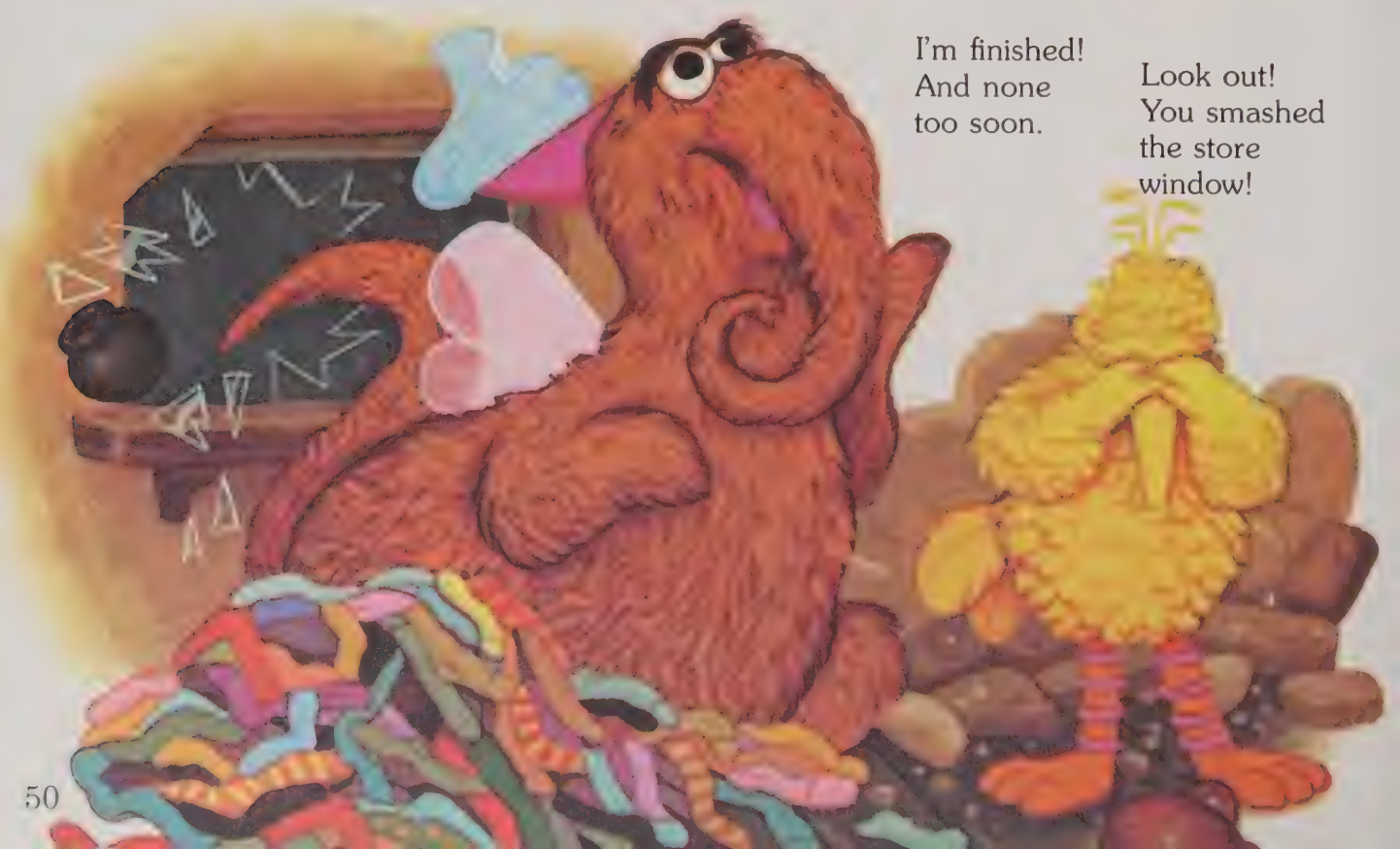
Socks Box

Socks Box

He sewed all night long.



And by sunup he had sewn every single sock.



And with the same puff of smoke and flash of light, the Snuffle-upagus fairy vanished as quickly as he had appeared.

Gee, do you have to vanish now? Mr. Sock-maker has never seen you, and I'm sure he'd like to meet you.

Sorry, Bird. We Snuffle-upagus fairies never stay to receive thanks.

When the Sock-maker woke up, was he ever surprised!

Why . . . who sewed my socks for me? And, by the way, who destroyed my store?

I can explain. . . . You see, during the night, the Snuffle-upagus fairy came, and he finished the socks, but he accidentally broke everything, and—

Oh, not that same Snuffle-upagus story again, Big Bird. There's no such thing as a Snuffle-upagus. You have some imagination!
And even though the Sock-maker didn't believe Big Bird, they all lived happily ever after . . . as soon as they had finished cleaning up the store.

Tt

The Terrible Tickler

The whole town of Tombstone remembers the day
That the Terrible Tickler came riding their way.
He came down the street with a look keen and steady
And said, "Folks, my tickling finger is ready.
Now tickling's terrific and tickling is fun,
And you'll all be tickled before I am done.
For tickling's my pleasure, my greatest of joys.
I think I'll start off with the young girls and boys!"

He first tickled Teddy,
Then Mike, Fran and Sue,
Then Manuel and Mary
And Algernon, too.
Not one could escape,
Though they'd run and they'd wriggle—
Each one would get tickled
And fall down and giggle.
And soon not a boy
Or a girl could be found
Except those who lay
Laughing down on the ground.

"I've got all the kids. Now it's time for the others,"
The Tickler announced. "Next come fathers and mothers."

So the Terrible Tickler
Went on with his work.
He got Nina the plumber
And Charlie the clerk.
He got Sam the barber
And even the mayor
Who fell laughing and giggling
Right out of his chair.

And as sure as five pennies add up to one nickel,
There wasn't one grownup that he didn't tickle.
"I've tickled the people but still I'm not through."
Said the Terrible Tickler, "Now guess what I'll do."

Well, he tickled the horses
And tickled the cows,
He tickled the cats
Till they giggled meows.
He tickled the pigs
And the mules and the dogs.
And he tickled the chickens
And even the frogs.

Then he looked all around and said, "I'm in a pickle.
I'm done and there's nobody left here to tickle.
I've tickled them all now," he said with a frown.
"I guess I'll just have to go find a new town!"
So he tickled a doll sitting high on a shelf.
Then he rode out of town as he tickled—himself.

And everyone said with a giggle and sigh,
"That Terrible Tickler's a mean rotten guy."
And they heard him call back as he giggled with glee,
"Remember that tickle *begins with a T."*

Uu

Grover Gets Under Things

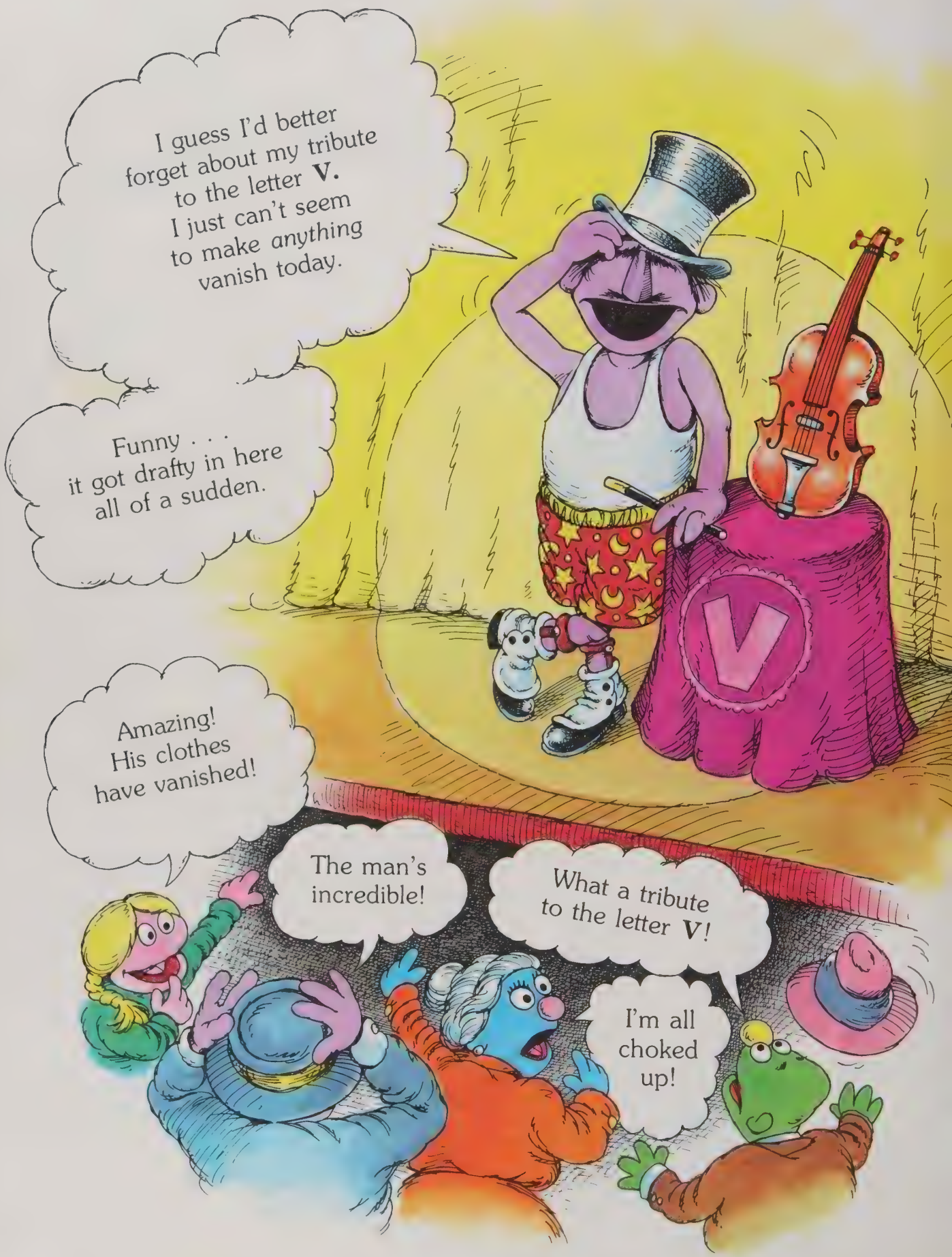
Grover, this is the U page. Would you like to help me show some things that start with the letter U?
Oh, Herbie! It would be my pleasure.
UGH!
Grover is saying UGH because he is standing under an umpire. UGH, UNDER and UMPIRE all start with the letter U. Okay, Grover, now I want you to stand under something else that starts with the letter U.
Herbie? Absolutely not! I have had enough of being under things that start with the letter U. If you want somebody to stand under something, you do it!
Well, okay, Grover . . . if you're sure.
There! I am doing it! I am standing under this umbrella. UNDER and UMBRELLA both start with the letter U.
Herbie? Would it be all right if I got back under the umpire again?

Vv

The Amazing Mumford's Vanishing Trick

And now, in a salute to the letter **V**, I, the Amazing Mumford, will make this violin vanish! You will notice both **violin** and **vanish** begin with the letter **V**.
Hey, I never noticed **violin** and **vanish** begin with a **V**.
What does vanish mean?
It means disappear, dummy!
V
A la peanut butter sandwiches!
BOOM!
Ladies and gentlemen! Please—give me another chance.
I, the Amazing Mumford, promise that this time you'll really see some vanishing!
IT DIDN'T DISAPPEAR!
He's not so great!
I want my money back!
Boo
A LA PEANUT BUTTER SANDWICHES!!!
KA BOOM

J. Mathieu

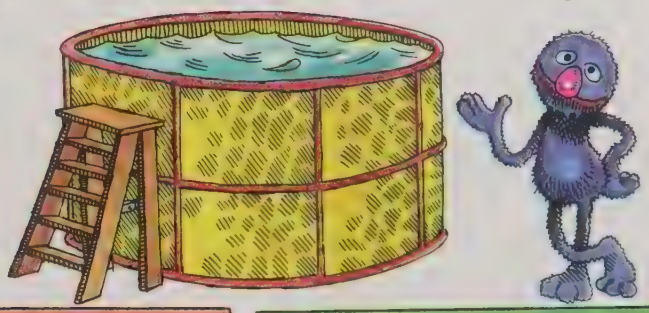

I guess I'd better forget about my tribute to the letter V. I just can't seem to make anything vanish today.
Funny . . . it got drafty in here all of a sudden.
V
Amazing! His clothes have vanished!
The man's incredible!
What a tribute to the letter V!
I'm all choked up!

Grover Gets Wet

Hi! It is your old pal Grover again, here to talk to you about the letter **W**.

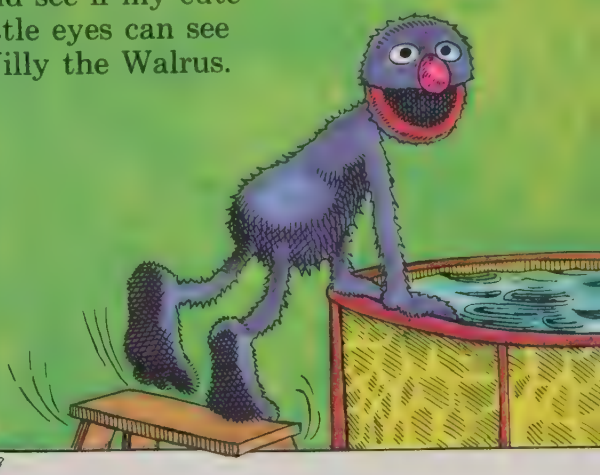
Ww

Do you know what begins with the letter **W**? **Water** begins with the letter **W**. And this is a big tank of water.



Do you know who lives in this tank of water? Willy the Walrus lives in this tank of water. And his name begins with the letter **W**, too. Oh, this is so much fun.

I will now bend over the top of the tank and see if my cute little eyes can see Willy the Walrus.



WHOOPS!

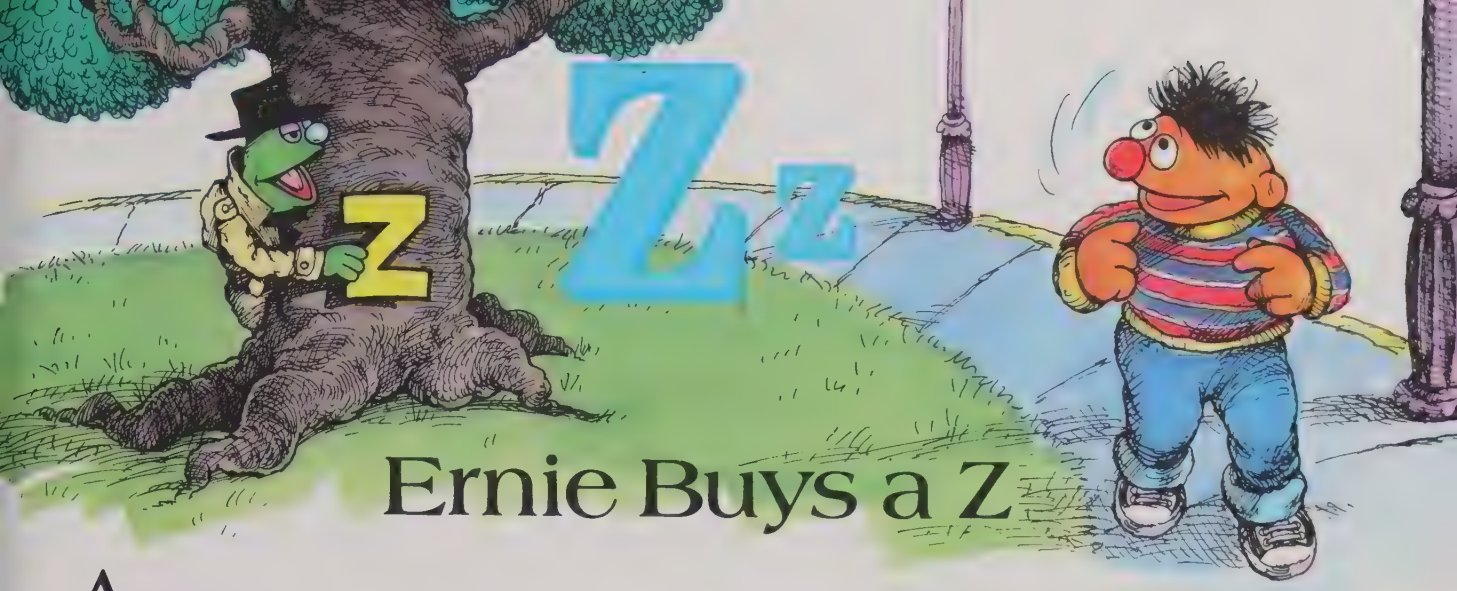
Whoops also starts with the letter W.

Now I am wet. The word **wet** also begins with the letter **W**. Well, since I am wet, there is one other thing that begins with the letter **W** . . .

WASH!

Well, Cookie Monster, here we are on the X page. Want to help me show everybody some things that start with the letter X?
Oh, yes! Me help! Me get things!
x X
Me back! Me bring xylophone and x-ray.
Good work! They both start with the letter X.
Me got more! Me got yo-yo, and yarn, and yogurt, and pet yak!
NO!
STOP! HOLD IT!
Those things all start with the letter Y. But this isn't the Y page. This is the X page! See that X up there?
YUMM-O YOGURT
You right. Me fix. Give me boost!
. . . Boost?
YUMM-O YOGURT

How is it?
Yummy!
y Y
There! Now this the Y page!
Now everything belong!
And you know something?
This letter *delicious!!*
YAY!
YAM
YOGURT!
YUMM-O
YOGURT



Ernie Buys a Z

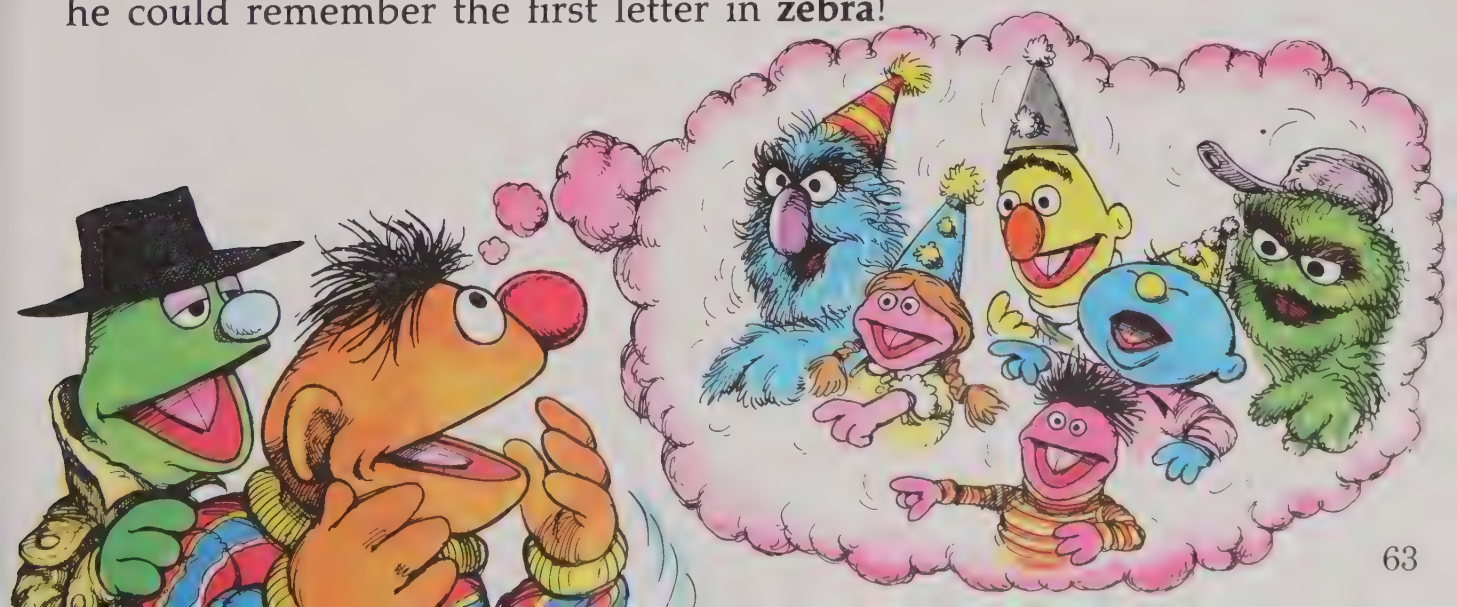
As Ernie walked down the street one day, he heard a "Pssst!" from nearby. He looked around and saw a shifty-looking Salesman hiding behind a tree.

"C'mere, kid," said the Salesman. "I'm gonna show you something that'll save you pain and trouble." And out from under his coat he took a big letter **Z**.

"That's the letter **Z**," said Ernie. "How will it save me pain and trouble?"

"I'll explain," said the Salesman. "Suppose you're at a party. And suppose somebody at the party asks you what the first letter is in the word **zebra**. And you can't remember."

"Oh, dear," said Ernie. He was imagining the party. He could just see it. Everybody would be pointing at him, and saying he couldn't spell. They'd probably never invite him to another party. If only he could remember the first letter in **zebra**!



"But," said the Salesman, "if you had this **Z**, you could take it out, look at it, and it would remind you that the first letter in **zebra** is **Z**."

"Thank goodness for that **Z**," said Ernie. "It's great for parties."

"Right," said the Salesman. "And there's another way it can help you. Suppose you're on a quiz show. The prize is two million dollars, *plus* a trip around the world, *and* a carton full of rubber duckies . . ."

"Wowee!" said Ernie. "What a prize!"

The Salesman went on, "Your question is: What's the first letter in the word **zoo**? But you can't remember. The seconds are ticking by . . .

. . . the band is playing tense music. . . ."

Ernie could just picture the whole thing. There he was, on the quiz show. If he couldn't answer the question, he'd get no prize! Everybody would boo him! If only he could remember the first letter in **zoo**!

"Well," said the Salesman, "if you had this **Z**, it would remind you that the first letter in zoo is **Z**."

"That settles it!" said Ernie. "I've got to have that **Z**! It'll save me pain and trouble!"

So Ernie bought the **Z** and walked away with it down the street.

The Salesman was about to leave when a stranger came up, holding a microphone. "HI!" he said. "I'm GUY SMILEY, and *you* are on QUIZ SHOW IN THE STREET! Today's prize is TWO MILLION DOLLARS, *PLUS* A TRIP AROUND THE WORLD, *AND* A CARTON FULL OF RAINCOATS! And TODAY'S QUESTION is: WHAT IS THE FIRST LETTER IN THE WORD **ZERO**?"

And to Guy Smiley's surprise, the Salesman ran away down the street shouting, "Hey, kid! Come back here with that letter!"

q
H
A
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Z
Q
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MORE BOOKS FROM SESAME STREET

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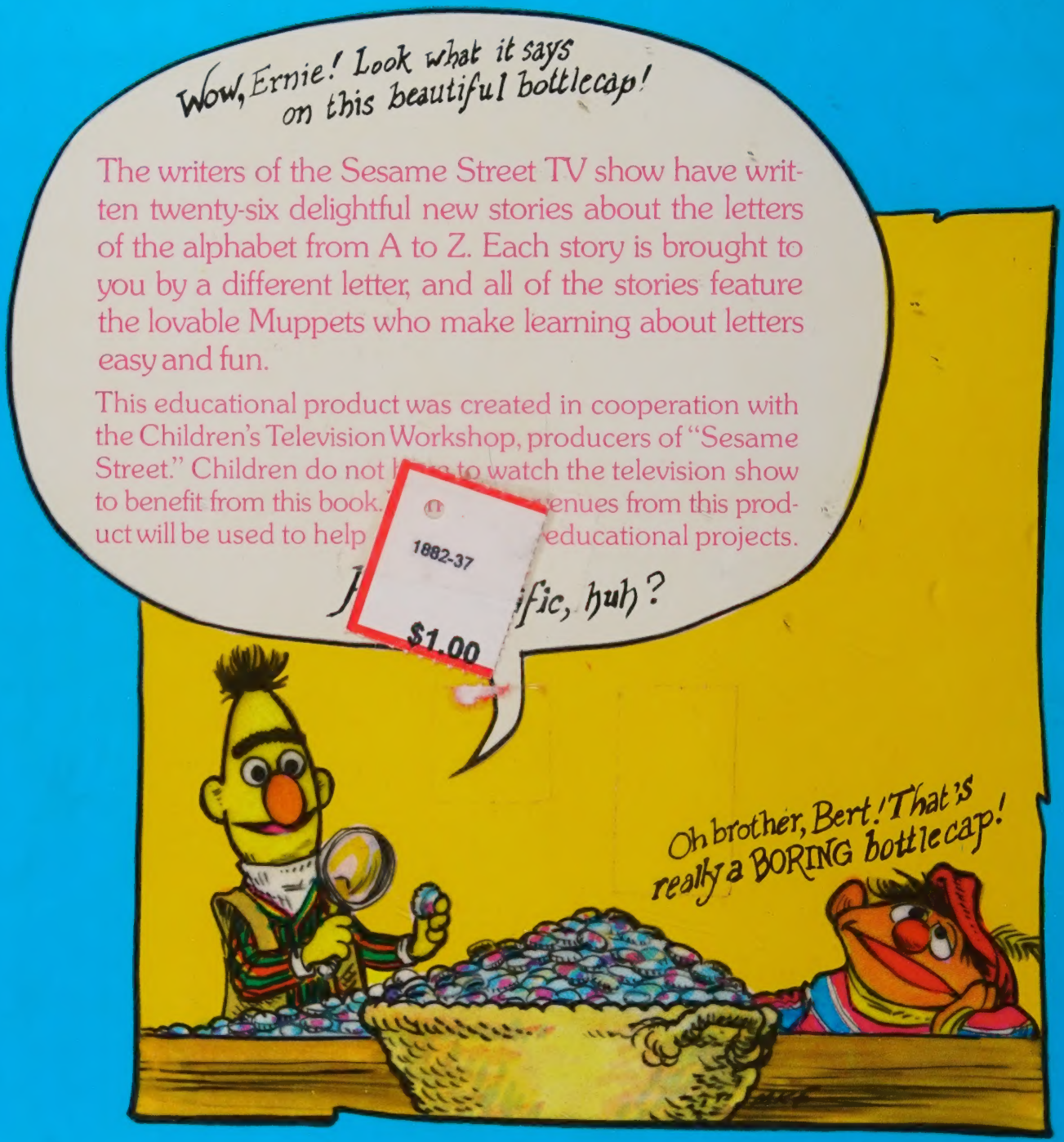
Who Are the People in Your Neighborhood?
The King on a Swing
What Happens Next?
The Alphabet Book
The Counting Book



The writers of the Sesame Street TV show have written twenty-six delightful new stories about the letters of the alphabet from A to Z. Each story is brought to you by a different letter, and all of the stories feature the lovable Muppets who make learning about letters easy and fun.

This educational product was created in cooperation with the Children's Television Workshop, producers of "Sesame Street." Children do not have to watch the television show to benefit from this book. Revenues from this product will be used to help educational projects.

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